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Quincy Bevely Talks Title VI, IDEI, and the Push to Make PC More Inclusive

by Andrea Traietti '21
Editor-in-Chief

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

This article is the first in The Cowl's Listening Tour, a series that aims to amplify the voices of BIPOC members of our community and bring awareness to social justice initiatives on campus.

In just four years at Providence College, Quincy Bevely has become one of the leading voices for institutional diversity, equity, and inclusion (IDEI) in an administrative role at the College.



Since he joined PC in 2016, Bevely has served in several key positions in different departments across campus: he has held the title of assistant dean of students/director of cultural education, assistant vice president for institutional diversity, and most recently, Title VI and Title IX deputy coordinator.

It is in his newest of roles as Title VI deputy coordinator that Bevely is now responsible for PC's compliance with Title VI requirements and for enforcing the College's anti-harassment policy. This week, Bevely sat down with The Cowl to discuss the new Title VI projects he has been working on, and also to share his assessment of inclusivity on campus and his vision for continued progress at the College.

When Bevely formally took on the role of Title VI deputy coordinator in August, he quickly identified an area in need of immediate improvement. "I realized that there wasn't any public forum or format for folks to submit bias reports," said Bevely. "Additionally there was not a tool for anonymity. It allowed me to

start thinking about what we could do as a college."

So, Bevely got to work, researching other colleges' bias response and reporting tools and putting together his own ideas for a similar reporting tool for PC. "We needed something with functionality to submit online reports, and to document and track them," said Bevely. "The best way to do it was to create a bias response reporting tool."

After consulting with members of the PC community from students to the College's general counsel, PC's new bias reporting form was released.

The form can be accessed on the Institutional Diversity page of PC's website, and there is also a link to it on the Title VI resources tab of Student Congress' website. It contains a series of dropdown questions for respondents to provide information regarding the incident and a space to describe the incident in detail. The form also provides an opportunity for respondents to choose to remain anonymous.

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Class of 2021 Celebrates Socially-Distanced Senior Ring Weekend

by Kyle Burgess '21
News Co-Editor

ON-CAMPUS

On Sunday, Oct. 25, members of the Providence College Class of 2021 commemorated their time in Friartown with a celebratory Senior Ring Weekend (SRW) Mass at St. Dominic Chapel. This year's celebrations took on a unique approach as the 130 masked seniors in attendance remained socially distant in their pews, but came together in faith and in their shared memories as a class.

The planning for this year's celebrations had been nearly two years in the making until COVID-19 put a damper on some of the weekend's festivities, including a formal dance for the Class of 2021 hosted at Twin Rivers Casino. However, the members of the 2021 SRW planning core were determined to keep one of the College's long-standing traditions alive despite the current circumstances.

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Former Friar Makes History as First Female NHL Scout *A True Trailblazer, Cammi Granato '93 Is No Newcomer to Breaking Barriers*

by Liam Tormey '22
Sports Staff

FEATURE

Cammi Granato '93 has been the first to achieve a lot of things in her life. She was one of the first women to be inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame, she was the first to captain the United States Women's Hockey Team to an Olympic Gold Medal, and now, she is the first female scout in National Hockey League history.

Growing up in Downers Grove, IL, Granato was one of six siblings. Her household was hockey-centric, as her entire family loved the sport.

"My family had a direct impact on who I was as a person and an athlete. I grew up in a team environment. Everything was family first," Granato said while describing her upbringing. Her brothers were very influential in shaping the hockey player she would become. Tony Granato would go on to have a very successful career in the NHL and is now the head coach of the University of Wisconsin's Men's Hockey Team. Her other brother, Don, is now an assistant coach for the Buffalo Sabers in the NHL.

Although it was never easy having to play with her brothers all the time, Granato admitted, "I followed my three older brothers everywhere they went. They never took it easy on me, I always had to keep up if I wanted to play." When they started to give her a hard time, she recalls her

brothers saying, "Do not tell mom." When she was halfway up the basement stairs, ready to express her frustrations to her mother, she realized, "They will not let me play again if I do this."

The hardships of being a woman in a male-dominated sport never made Granato back down. Her brothers helped shape her into a player who was confident enough in herself to play at the highest level. Granato says she is most appreciative of "the standard they set for me."

Her journey came with challenges, however. As a teenager, Granato was "the only girl. [She] never played against a girl until [she] was 18." Playing with her brothers for a club team, she had to deal with constant whispers and snickers from a whole host of people. Granato recalls getting to the rink one day only for the figure skaters to "turn off the lights on me in the bathroom and call me weird and giggle at me."

This was only one of the many obstacles she met in the rink. Granato remembers getting intentionally blindsided on the ice one time and suffering a concussion as a result. Another time, a coach told her before the game that he would break her collarbone if she played. A teammate's father even told Granato's coach his son would not play if a girl was playing.

"At the same time, I was shielded by all of the noise," said Granato. "My coach was terrific, I had my family behind me, and they all accepted me."

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PHOTO COURTESY OF SEATTLE KRAKEN, NHL.COM

After graduating from PC in 1993, Granato went on to win a gold medal in the 1998 Winter Olympics and was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame in 2010. Now, Granato joins the Seattle Kraken as the first female scout in the NHL.

UNDER THE HOOD

Providence College's Student-Run Newspaper Since 1935

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PC Makes Comeback after Outbreak

Campus Reopens and In-person Classes Resume

by Julia Acquavita '22
News Staff

CAMPUS

After about a two-week closure during the campus-wide quarantine, Providence College has finally resumed its in-person classes and use of the Concannon Fitness Center, Phillips Memorial Library, and indoor dining at Raymond Dining Hall and Alumni Hall Food Court. PC students have been eager to get back out on campus and recommence their weekly activities with their peers, whether it is meeting with friends in the library to do work, going to the gym, or simply grabbing a bite to eat at Ray.

On Oct. 15, Dean Steven Sears sent an email officially announcing the idea of a “PC Comeback.” Sears expressed that, regarding the reopening of the College after the recent lockdown, “It has taken a tremendous amount of hard work and discipline to get here, and I am grateful to every one of you for the part you have played.”

Between the combined effort of testing every student each week, along with everyone wearing masks and sticking to their pods these past few weeks, students have contributed to bringing PC back to normal.

However, the work is not done. We must keep up the hard work so to not regress back to a forced quarantine. Sears stressed that the only way to avoid going backwards is to learn from our “trials and tribulations” and truly commit to doing our part to keep us on track for five more

successful weeks in Friartown. The most important thing to do right now is be smart with where we choose to go, regarding both on-campus and off-campus activities.

Sears gave the example that going out to dinner at a restaurant is not safe, while going to grab an iced coffee to-go from LaSalle is much less risky. We must also continue to stay within our pods, avoiding interactions with other pods that could potentially lead to more positive cases.

Ray and Alumni are back to their normal dining hours. As of Oct. 18, all students were given the option for dine-in or take-out in both halls. Ray will begin to bring back some of its favorite offerings that students have been missing, such as made-to-order eggs, build your own salad, and Rustic Roots. Ray also has several special events planned in the coming weeks, such as a donut holes topping bar, a “Rock the Block” party, and “billionaire” burgers for all students to enjoy.

Alumni Hall will offer Fresh Fusion, Fry Factory, Burger Shop, Yella's, soup, Slice of Life calzones, and Simply-To-Go sandwiches and salads for dine-in Monday–Friday from 10:30 a.m.–11 p.m. and Saturday–Sunday 12 p.m.–11 p.m. Mobile ordering is also available during this time.

Ruane Cafe will remain closed for the semester; however, Blessed Beans & Bakery (located in Ray) will re-open, continuing to serve Starbucks beverages, pastries, and desserts. Lastly, Eaton Street Cafe will remain mobile-order only, available only on Sunday–Saturday, 5 p.m.–10 p.m. However, students must continue

to wear masks and maintain social distancing while dining in and out.

This was not the last of the “PC Comeback” email students received. Sears sent out another email highlighting the change in mood on campus. With classes resuming some in-person instruction, and a return to normal Friartown activities, Sears noted that campus seems to be much happier all around.

Sears also shared what he called “The Great Friar Comeback Pledge.” By taking and signing this pledge, we, as members of Friartown, are committing ourselves to return from the recent outbreak unified and stronger. Some of the claims stated in the pledge include, “I will value and respect the interconnectedness of all members of the Providence College and Rhode Island community,” and “I will commit to actions and behaviors that will not impede the access and opportunity of others.”

By signing this pledge, we are expressing our gratitude towards the College and each other in all of our efforts to make campus a safer and healthier place for the coming weeks leading into Thanksgiving break by wearing a mask, staying within our pods, and social distancing. When students sign this pledge, they are eligible to receive Pledge Perks, such as weekly give-away raffles. The next time students visit the testing center in the Peterson Recreation Center, they will be able to pick up a Comeback Kit, which includes some information about pods and other public health guidance, a no-touch tool for keypads, a small hand sanitizer, and a Friar mask with a single-use filter in every bag.

The Board Of Programmers (BOP) has also been involved in the reopening of campus through a wide variety of events that encompass re-establishing the Friartown community in a comfortable and safe way. Prior to the lockdown, BOP conducted the event “Coping with COVID” via Zoom, which included a mental health panel that discussed readjusting to life on campus during a pandemic.

Also, the weekend of Oct.18, BOP hosted their Fall Market event where students were invited to tie-dye masks as a way to destress during the chaos of studying for midterms. In addition to the in-person and Zoom events, BOP has also been hosting events that students can sign up for and have the materials for the event delivered right to their dorm rooms to avoid in-person contact. This past week, the “Paint a Pumpkin” event took place. Students signed up online and then received a pumpkin and painting supplies at their rooms, allowing them to engage directly with the event from the comfort of their dorms.

These are certainly unprecedented times, but through the continued support of Dean Sears, PC Dining staff, BOP, and most importantly, our faculty and students, we will persevere and make it until Thanksgiving break. Every student must put forth their best effort to ensure that Friartown is a safe and healthy place for the PC community to thrive in. With the example set forth by Dean Sears and others, all of this is possible.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

COVID-19 Concerns Rise in Rhode Island

by Eileen Cooney '23
News Staff

LOCAL NEWS

Reported COVID-19 cases in Rhode Island, and specifically in the Providence area, are on the rise. On Oct. 21, the Rhode Island Department of Health reported 470 new cases of the virus, topping the single-day record set back in April during the peak of the virus, and putting the seven-day positivity rate at 2.0%, the highest it has been in months.

The increase in cases have sparked a growing concern among health officials, politicians, and citizens about the fears of the dreaded “second-wave” that has already begun in Europe. Governor Gina Raimondo, in her press conference given on Oct. 21, said that Rhode Island is not at the threshold of a second wave just yet, but that the trends in the data certainly indicate that the state is headed in that direction.

She urged citizens to think of their fellow Rhode Islanders, and to follow mask-wearing and social distancing protocols so that everybody can get back to work and back to their lives sooner. “We are not in a good place,” she said, emphasizing that people’s actions can again control and flatten the curve.

Her pleas to the general public come in the wake of backlash to her announcement last week that Rhode Island would stay in Phase 3 until there is a widely available vaccine. In Phase 3, the indoor and outdoor gathering limit is 15 people, mask-wearing is mandated, and proper social distancing protocols must be followed. Many small-business owners said this is a blow to their already barely surviving businesses. In response, Raimondo says that she would like to incrementally



Gov. Raimondo warns against letting up on COVID-19 guidelines.

PHOTO COURTESY OF THE74MILLION.ORG

relax restrictions, but the recent exponential surge in cases prevents her from doing so immediately.

There has also been concern about whether schools are going to become breeding grounds for the virus and if they will further perpetuate spread across communities. William M. Davies, Jr. Career and Technical High School in Lincoln, RI recently released a report with evidence that could indicate community spread at the high school.

Raimondo has said that there is still clear evidence that schools are not a significant source for community transmission, and she says that the risks of not having kids in school are far worse because schools provide essential services, such as meal support and mental health counseling, to many kids who would otherwise not receive them. Raimondo says the effects of children

not receiving these services has been and will continue to be extremely detrimental if schools were to close.

With the holidays approaching, Raimondo has voiced her concerns about an even more drastic rise in cases. She is worried about Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas all occurring in close succession. Raimondo says she understands that people feel isolated and are tired of living with the virus, but she asked them to think about others before not abiding by state regulations concerning COVID-19.

Rhode Island is not alone in dealing with this new surge of cases, as the United States reported a record-number of new coronavirus cases on Oct. 23, and six states topped daily death records. Many leading health officials have said that all of this data indicates that the U.S. is headed for a dark winter.

Understanding Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Title VI

An Interview with IDEI Assistant VP Quincy Bevely

Listening Tour

Continued from front page

A key aspect of the reporting form that Bevely highlighted is its definition of different kinds of biases. One of the first questions the form asks respondents is, “What is the primary type of bias involved?” and provides a list of incidents to choose from, as well as an option to describe any other kind of bias not listed on the form.

Bevely said that the inclusion of this question has “given folks an understanding of how bias is defined, how it’s operationalized, and how these things adversely affect our college campus here at PC.”

The form arguably could not have come at a better time. In response to the murder of George Floyd this past May and the subsequent Black Lives Matter protests that occurred across the nation, members of the PC community saw a need to address systemic racism and interpersonal racism towards BIPOC students at PC. Students, faculty, and alumni alike began turning to the Instagram account @BlackatPC, which emerged over the summer, in order to anonymously share their experiences with racism during their time at the College and bring attention to the need for changes in administrative and academic policies.

Bevely encourages students to participate in the @BlackatPC Instagram and cited the page as something that he has been proud to see. However, he noted that the bias reporting form from the College gives him the authority to actually act on and investigate incidents of bias in a way that he cannot simply from reading

“The momentum has been unprecedented during this time, and I think the pandemic has contributed at large to that, where folks have had an ability to pause, be present, watch the news, see the things that are happening, and become more globally educated.”

through the posts on the @BlackatPC page.

“[The reporting form] gives me the authority and the power to investigate the cases because I can’t adjudicate the social media platform,” Bevely said. “Students can submit those testimonials on our documentation form and we can adjudicate it, we can investigate it, we can look into the matter further.”

In terms of the community’s reaction to the reporting form, Bevely said, “What I’ve seen is more folks submitting issues of bias because of the tool.” He noted the importance of having a method to track incidents that appear as part of a pattern, and how much easier that process has been in an online format. “If we’re seeing commonalities, if we’re seeing consistent behaviors, if we’re seeing repeat offenders, it allows us to track those things,” said Bevely.

Bevely pointed out that while the reporting form is new, the College’s anti-harassment policy has not changed in any way. However, one of Bevely’s goals was to make the College’s Title VI response and anti-harassment protocol easier for members of the community to understand. The College’s anti-harassment policy is a five-page document that outlines the detailed nature of responding to incidents of bias in compliance with Title VI regulations.

“For me reading that policy, I felt like I was learning something new everytime I read it and I can only imagine how it was for folks without a Title VI purview,” said Bevely.

To make the process of investigations more transparent and easier to understand, the Office of IDEI created visual aids for students, faculty, and staff that present the College’s Title VI response as flowcharts. The flowcharts, which outline the several courses of



PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

Bevely joined the College in 2016 and is one of the leading voices on IDEI in an administrative role.

action the College might take depending on the kind of incident and the people involved, are also linked on PC’s Institutional Diversity webpage.

A critical method for responding to bias-related incidents on campus, the reporting tool is only one part of what must be an all-encompassing approach to inclusivity at the College, which is something that Bevely emphasized.

“I want to point out that we’re not just taking a post-vention approach, meaning responding to things as they come,” said Bevely. “We’re preventive, we’re intervening.”

“It’s important to respond, but it’s mutually important to educate as well, to prevent these issues from happening, and to help us on the road to becoming a beloved community.”

Bevely mentioned several of the key initiatives that the Office of IDEI has taken on recently as part of its educational and preventative approach to DEI work. Last year, the Office created Advocates for a Beloved Community, a student group trained to combat biases, help educate other groups on campus, and promote reconciliation and social justice.

This summer, the College launched a virtual anti-racism series. Held over Zoom, the series featured five faculty-member-led sessions, and concluded with one student-led session. Bevely also mentioned that this year, the Office of IDEI started a diversity committee to work with the Board of Trustees, which is the first committee of its kind.

Bevely emphasized that the College’s approach to inclusion and diversity is one that expands beyond the Office of IDEI. “Most folks would say either a ground-up or a top-down approach,” Bevely said. “We have neither. We have all-encompassing.”

DEI efforts at PC continue to involve different student groups, faculty members, and members of administration from across campus. Bevely stressed this point in how he conceptualizes the Office of IDEI’s role in interacting and collaborating with the College community at large: “We’re empowering them to do the work of diversity because it’s the responsibility of the entire college, not just the responsibility of our office, and we strategically set up our office in that way,” he said.

“The work that we’re doing—we’re trying to weave it into the whole entire college.”

As the Office of IDEI and the College at large moves forward with these and other initiatives to improve diversity, equity, and inclusion on campus, Bevely noted the challenge of trying to anticipate and plan for where the College might be years down the line, especially because of the uncertainty of the present moment.

When asked where he sees the trajectory of the College’s efforts five years from now, Bevely answered, “That’s a really difficult question because of where we are nationally, just given the unrest, given the political

election, given the climate around campus, given the issues that the virus is creating with marginalized communities.”

Bevely said, “I hope that our office can work a little bit more with the Smithfield community. I would like to see a better relationship so as to be a resource and pillar for the community around restorative justice practices, around education, and around biases. But I think in order to branch out into the community we first have to take care of home, so I’m hoping over these next five years we can work to make PC more inclusive, increase representation for faculty of color, make it more equitable for all, make the sense of belonging for students better.”

While the long-term impact of the Office’s efforts remain to be determined by the outcome of current events, Bevely was certainly confident about one thing we are seeing right now: the momentum of the movement.

“The momentum has been unprecedented during this time, and I think the pandemic has contributed at large to that, where folks have had an ability to pause, be present, watch the news, see the things that are happening, and become more globally educated,” said Bevely. He added, “If I had to hang my hat on something that I’m very excited for, it’s that [momentum] is swinging in the right direction.”

“I feel like for the first time in the area of diversity, equity, and inclusion, we’ve captured a large ear and we’ve captured a lot of attention from the general public,” he noted. “For the first time, allyship is through the roof. You have folks asking, ‘What can I do to help?’ ‘How can I commit myself to the work of anti-racism?’ ‘How can I influence diversity, equity, and inclusion?’”

The energy of the current movement for inclusivity and diversity on campus is something Bevely remains proud of. “I’m very proud of things like the @BlackatPC Instagram page, the students mobilizing and speaking out, the stories that we’re hearing, how things that have been in the dark are coming to light. I’m very proud of the change.”

Bevely specifically mentioned that he has been proud of the efforts Father Kenneth Sicard, O.P., has made in his first few months as President of the College. “We have a president that’s very committed to DEI at the College,” said Bevely. “We have a president that’s willing to get his elbows dirty, get on the front lines with us, and has shown us not just by talk but by walking, by action, his commitment and his ability to really influence change.”

The challenge, of course, is preserving the energy of the movement when the pandemic eventually passes and our daily lives begin to look more like they did pre-COVID-19.

“The concern that I would have with momentum is how sustainable it is,” said Bevely. “How do we keep the momentum going, how do we carry it on, how do we allow this to not just be a moment in time or something that’s just popular in the media?”

“With the momentum, this has to continue to matter,” he said. “And the way that it continues to matter is to keep it at the forefront of our current issues.”

How can we keep the movement for social justice at the forefront? For starters, “I think we all have to continue to educate ourselves, we all have to continue to listen,” Bevely said. “There has to be a willingness to collaborate with one another, to engage across differences, to understand differences, to listen to each other more and to respect our differences.”

“We’re a college of spirituality,” he added, “so I think we all have to approach with grace, we all have to be empathetic, we all have to understand that everyone comes to the College with their own personal story, their own personal narrative.”

Bevely stressed that DEI work at the College must continue to be collaborative: to be successful, our efforts to make PC more equitable and inclusive have to expand beyond the Office of IDEI alone and reach every corner of campus. “It’s going to take all of us to change the climate at PC, and we’re there to foster the experience, we’re there to co-create the beloved community, but without the efforts of the entire college, none of this is possible,” said Bevely.

So how can we keep the momentum going on campus? For Bevely, it continues to fall on each of us to stay engaged, to take action, and to keep our efforts going as a movement, not just a moment. “I think it’s simple,” he said. “We can’t let up. Don’t you let up.”

Feedback on our Listening Tour or suggestions for who we should talk to next? Email editor@thecowl.com.

Featured Friar: Caroline Rivera '21

Staying Involved Even While Staying at Home

by Sydney Olinger '23
News Staff

FEATURED FRIAR

It is well-known by Providence College students and faculty that the College is devoted to building up our community to reach its fullest potential. Encouragement from everyone in our community is especially important during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. There are many ways to be part of support efforts on our campus, but there are also many ways we can try to enact positive change.

Caroline Rivera '21 has been an integral part of enacting change on our campus and hopes to play a similar role in the necessary change for our world.

Rivera is a health policy and management major, Spanish and finance minor, and a student in the Liberal Arts Honors Program.

This semester, she made the difficult decision, as a senior with many leadership positions on campus, to study remotely. Though she is working from home, she is making every effort to do her part as a Latina and leader on campus.

She is currently a virtual intern at the Programs of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) Organization of Rhode Island, where she is developing new components of telehealth to improve older-adult care for those of low socioeconomic status. In her future career, she aspires to work as a top health administrator to provide high quality care for the marginalized populations in her community.

Growing up on Long Island, NY, Rivera attended Comsewogue High School in Port Jefferson Station. There, she developed an interest in student government as her class's vice president for her first three years and student body president by her senior year.

As a member of her high school government, she was very involved in planning events, such as dances and fundraisers, but was also a strong believer in volunteering around her local community.

This love for volunteering in the community stood strong as she transitioned to life at PC. She finds that her position as Academic Committee



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAROLINE RIVERA '21

Rivera '21 takes pride in her Latinx heritage.

chair on Student Congress is an extended role of her position as student body president in high school, meaning that she still participates in planning events and fundraisers, as well as community outreach, but she is also able to offer representation for students in meetings with school administration.

This year, Rivera has implemented many of her ideas as Academic Committee chair. She has worked with the Continuity Task Force (CTF) committee, creating the One-Stop Providence College webpage where most of the College's academic resources can be found. Recently, she spearheaded the Core Crunch event with the Academics Committee, where they provide information on the spring semester registration process and academic advising.

She emphasized that this year was an especially important time for students—particularly for freshmen and transfer students who have never gone through the registration process—to receive

assistance from upperclassmen and advisors through the Core Crunch. According to Rivera, the event was incredibly successful and she hopes that she can continue to be a resource for those in need.

As a member of the Latinx community, Rivera joined the Organization of Latin American Students (OLAS) her freshman year hoping to find people who shared her Latin-American culture and heritage while she was away from home and her family.

She recounted that her first year of OLAS was quite different than the empowering club it is now. The club has gone from one that struggled to have weekly meetings because of a lack of dedicated members to consistent meetings with over 20 members, even throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

She worked with other executive members to promote the club, originally as the treasurer and now as the president of OLAS. Rivera describes the club as a family that has grown together to overcome the challenges that the Latinx community faces.

"At meetings, it is empowering to hear other students speak in Spanish without being ridiculed or being told to speak English. We enjoy listening to music without receiving disapproving looks, and we lean on each other when on-campus issues marginalize BIPOC and Spanish-speaking students and faculty," said Rivera.

Some of her favorite memories come from her time as a resident assistant (RA) in Raymond Hall her sophomore year. She loved becoming acquainted with all of her residents and believes she would not be the person she is today without those experiences. After graduation this spring, she will miss her weekly Congress and OLAS meetings and fellow members, as well as her all-time favorite Take 3 quesadilla and fries.

In her almost four years as a Friar, Rivera has been an integral part of the PC community. The ideas she has implemented and the changes she has made will continue to have positive impacts on our community.

"My favorite part about PC is knowing that my professors and peers want others to succeed. In our community, individuals are not just interested to see themselves do well, they are motivated to empower others in their achievements as well," stated Rivera.

Connecting and Networking On an Online Network

Providence College Holds Virtual Career Expo

by Max Waite '21
News Staff

CAMPUS

This past Wednesday, Oct. 21, the Providence College Career Expo was held virtually for the PC community. Over 450 students attended the redesigned event, where they were given the option to sign up for one-on-one or group sessions on the Handshake platform.

The Career Expo has always been a tremendous opportunity for students, not only to expand their networks, but also to gain valuable practice in communicating with business professionals. Given the COVID-19 pandemic, the entire event had to be moved to a virtual format in order to comply with social distancing guidelines. Despite this, students were still engaged with and intrigued by each guest speaker.

Prior to the event, students were given the opportunity to participate in the "Expo Crunch" on Oct. 13-15 from 1-5 p.m. As part of this event, students could elect to receive extensive feedback on their resumes from employer partners of a student's choosing. Another set of eyes is always helpful when reviewing resumes, for the advice provided from someone in a field you are interested in could enhance your brand image within the working world.

Dylan Clune '21 appreciated the help he received on his resume, stating, "It was awesome to receive feedback on how to improve my resume in order for it to stand out." He continued, saying, "It was great to experience the effort and care someone was willing to put in to help me out to make my resume even better."

Given the virtual format, it was likely more difficult to ask questions within sessions. Originally, students could have the opportunity to have a brief one-on-one conversation with an employer and ask them questions about their line of work and their company.

Within virtual group sessions, however, it could be more difficult to stand out amongst other attendees of a session, and students may have felt awkward asking questions or participating in conversations with large numbers of attendees in a particular session. Regardless, students received great preparation to take with them for future interactions within a professional environment.

Cam Offner '21 stated, "I attended 3 sessions, all widely ranging in the number of attendees. I thoroughly enjoyed the Career Expo, but sometimes felt that it was difficult for some students to ask questions to employers. I truly feel that I received all the information that I needed in order to make the most out of the experience, as well as enhance my presence within the working world."

A crucial component of the Career Expo, regardless

of whether the event is virtual or not, is preparation. All students were strongly encouraged to research each of the industries and companies that they were interested in, even if they had participated in previous events of this kind. Through research, one could stand out and impress employers by showing their dedication and motivation. Alex Richards '21 said, "I thoroughly researched every employer in attendance. The Expo is always a great opportunity to get your foot in the door and expand your network. There are a lot of opportunities to stand out at the Expo, and I strongly felt that I did my part to make the most out of the experience."

As part of the preparation for the Career Expo, students were also given the opportunity to attend the Career Development & What Employers Are Looking For Webinar on Thursday, Oct. 15.



Picture of students and professionals networking at a Career Expo from several years ago.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

B(ring)ing Down the Senior Year Curtain

Class of 2021 Celebrates Senior Ring Weekend

SRW

Continued from front page

“It was definitely a challenge adjusting our plan for SRW to be in compliance with COVID restrictions,” explained Brianna Waldmann ’21, one of the core’s Mass and reception co-chairs. “However, Father Peter Martyr was incredibly helpful in creating the logistics for this Mass.”

Along with Father Peter Martyr, O.P.’s assistance, the team developed a seating chart that allowed pods of students to be seated together while also maintaining adequate distance between other pods. These pods were also filtered into the chapel using a system of traffic cones that helped to prevent crowding at the entrance. “Additionally, we had many amazing senior ushers and greeters who assisted with Mass, contact tracing requirements, and cleaning the pews of the Chapel after Mass to ensure the utmost safety,” Waldmann explained.

For Waldmann, the ability to help in the planning and preservation of this cherished tradition was an opportunity she could not pass up. “I wanted to be a part of creating such a fun weekend for the Class of 2021, and specifically wanted to serve as the Mass and reception co-chair,” said Waldmann. “I believe the SRW Mass is such a beautiful end to SRW weekend allowing our class to join in communion



BRIANNA COLLETTI '21/THECOWL

Seniors were able to receive their rings despite event cancellations.

with one another and have our class rings blessed together. I wanted to help create an opportunity for us to join together once again as seniors.”

The rings, despite their variety of shapes, colors, and sizes, share several images reflecting the Class of 2021’s PC experience. Iconic locations such as the school’s front gates that greeted seniors during orientation three years ago, Harkins Hall, the Arthur F. and Patricia Ryan Center for Business Studies, and St. Dominic Chapel are engraved into the rings.

Dogwood trees, which are found on campus and blossom into a beautiful collage of colors each spring, are also present on the class’s rings to remind

students that the heart of the Friar Family will always remain at PC, even if friendships fade away like the dogwood’s leaves in fall.

The Friar logo stands as an acknowledgement of the immense school pride that each Friar carries with them and unites the Friartown community at large. The phases of the moon from August 2017 and May 2021 complete the ring story, embodying the complete journey that this year’s seniors have taken together.

Although students were unable to come together as a class in a formal ceremony reception due to the COVID-19 protocol measures, the SRW planning core remains optimistic that the class of 2021 will have special events in the future, with the group allocating its remaining budget to senior events during the spring semester.

However, the Mass itself represented a unique opportunity for seniors to celebrate how far they have come as a class. As Waldmann put it, “Having our class rings blessed as a community of PC seniors is such an incredible way for us to recognize God’s graces in our time at PC and all that will come as we transition to a new stage in our lives post-graduation.” Despite the absence of many traditional aspects from the weekend’s itinerary, the class of 2021 remains grateful they were able to come together in recognition of their accomplishments and share in their excitement for what the future has in store.

Bursting the PC Bubble

No Love Lost in Nashville: Trump and Biden Spar in Final Presidential Debate

by Hannah Langley ’21
News Co-Editor

ELECTION

On Thursday, Oct. 22, the United States waited in anticipation for the final presidential debate between President Donald Trump and former Vice President Joe Biden. Compared to the first debate, which CBS News called “a chaotic series of bitter exchanges and name-calling,” this debate actually presented arguments and was “civil, calm, sedate, substantive (at times) and, almost, even normal,” as stated in the *New York Times*.

Shannon Sullivan ’21, co-president of PC Democrats, stated her concerns for the final debate, saying, “I really do hope that this debate is productive and engaging. However, I feel discouraged after watching the first debate because it felt more like a reality TV show than a presidential debate.”

Kristen Welker of NBC News moderated the debate, making her just the second Black woman to moderate a presidential debate alone. Many praised Welker’s handling of the debate as she was able to control the conversation well, despite initial fears of a repeated presidential shouting match. In addition to Welker having good control over the conversation, Trump and Biden’s microphones could also be muted during their opponent’s responses to avoid frequent interruption.

Welker began the debate on the topic of COVID-19. Trump emphasized that the country’s mortality rate has gone down drastically since the beginning of the virus’s spread in the U.S. He believes the actions he took early on in the pandemic, such as closing America’s borders to China and other countries, as well as closing the economy, helped save the lives of hundreds of thousands of Americans. He also stated there will be a vaccine released very soon, even as shortly as

in the next few weeks, claiming, “We’re rounding the corner. It’s going away soon.”

Biden refuted these claims, arguing, “Anyone who’s responsible for [the deaths of 220,000 Americans] should not remain as President.” He also argued against Trump’s claim that the virus will go away soon, saying that an estimated 200,000 additional people will die of the virus by the end of this year. “There’s not another serious scientist that believes this is going to end soon,” said Biden.

Trump also claimed that Americans are learning to live with the virus at this point, while Biden refuted, saying that people are not learning to live with the virus, but die with it, and encouraged the American people to continue wearing masks in order to prevent a greater spread.

The second topic of the debate was foreign relations, and specifically foreign interference with the current upcoming election. Biden stated, “Any country that interferes with American elections will pay the price.” Trump said that Russian interference would not be tolerated and that “there has been nobody tougher on Russia than Donald Trump.”

The conversation then shifted to both Trump and Biden’s own personal relationships with countries such as Russia, China, and the Ukraine, to which both men accused one another of embezzling money secretly. Trump admitted to having foreign bank accounts from before his presidency, but claimed that these accounts were closed. He also stated that the records of his tax returns would be released soon, and that the search for them has been a “phony witch hunt.”

Trump also spoke about the United States’ relationship with North Korea. While Trump argued that the Obama administration has an unstable relationship with the North Koreans, he said the United States’ relationship with North Korea is now very good and clearly there is no war, while Biden

argued that Trump has been “pok[ing] his finger in the eye of all our friends” around the world.

Following this conversation, Welker shifted the debate towards health care. Trump claimed that the Affordable Care Act, informally known as Obamacare, needs to be remodeled, which is what he has been doing for the past four years. Although Trump has not been able to terminate Obamacare, he has been able to do several things, such as eliminate individual mandates for those who pay for health care. Trump also claimed that no one with pre-existing conditions would lose their health care.

Trump called Biden’s plan for healthcare a socialized program that would cause the stock market to crash, but Biden argued against this claim. He stated that everyone should have the right to affordable health care.

Biden also stated, “I don’t see red states and blue states. What I see is American, United States.”

In their discussion about immigration and deportation, Trump made the argument that undocumented immigrants enter the country through illegal drug cartels, coyotes, and gangs, and only about 1% of those who are supposed to return to the border actually do so. Trump claimed that Biden did nothing to help immigrants except for building cages during the Obama Administration, but Biden promised to build a better immigration system, reminding viewers, “I’ll be president of the United States, not vice president of the United States.”

On the topic of race, Trump claimed, “Not since Abraham Lincoln has anybody done what I’ve done for the Black community” and that he was probably “the least racist person in the room.” He cited how he has invested a “tremendous” amount in the Black and Hispanic communities and historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs).

Biden, on the other hand, discussed how he recognized his white privilege, saying he never had to teach his

children that they are “the victim no matter what.” He also stated that the infamous 1994 crime bill was a mistake. While Trump argued that Biden did not do anything to fix the bill during his eight years as vice president, Biden gave his thoughts on punishment: “No one should be going to jail for a drug problem, they should be going to rehabilitation.”

In regards to climate change, Trump claimed the U.S. has “done an incredible job environmentally” and that Biden’s plan is “an economic disaster.” Trump stated that Americans, especially Blacks and Hispanics, are “employed heavily” in the oil industry and removing these jobs, as Biden wants to do, would hurt the economy. Biden refuted this claim, however, saying his environmental plan has been backed by several environmental and labor groups, and his plan would create millions of jobs and trillions of dollars.

To conclude the debate, Trump stated that Biden’s election would cause “a depression the likes of which you’ve never seen.” Biden stated, “I represent all of you, whether you voted for or against me.”

Both Sullivan and Charlie Dumon ’21, president of PC Republicans, agreed that this debate went much more smoothly than the first one held back in September. “The President did a great job in Thursday’s debate, and I think the moderator was much better as well,” said Dumon.

Sullivan was also happy with the outcome of the debate, saying, “I think this debate was a lot better than the first in all aspects.” She continued, saying, “I think I got much more out of this one and actually learned something about the candidates.”

While this was the final debate before the official election on Nov. 3, Americans still have time to decide whether they will vote for Trump or Biden, either in-person or by mail-in ballot.

Pope Francis, Bishop Tobin, and the LGBT+ Community *A Call to Action*

by Savannah Plaisted '21
Opinion Co-Editor

CAMPUS

Pope Francis made history this month with his statement regarding the LGBT+ community in the recently released documentary *Francesco*. In the documentary, Pope Francis says, "What we have to create is a civil union law. That way they [gay couples] are legally covered." This statement went viral and grabbed mass public attention given the magnitude of a pope expressing public support for civil union protections for the first time.

Yet, here in Providence, Bishop Thomas Tobin made a completely contradictory statement, saying, "The legitimization of their civil unions, which seek to simulate holy matrimony, is not admissible." This is a clear indication that Bishop Tobin not only opposes the progressive views held by many in the Church community and leadership, but, in this case, is in direct opposition to the highest authority in the institution.

The conversation regarding the relationship between the Church and LGBT+ individuals has also been present on campus. In the recent town hall held by Father Sicard on Monday, Oct. 5, one of the questions anonymously posed was, "How will PC protect LGBTQIA students especially considering the Church's views on marriage?"

Both Father Kenneth Sicard, O.P., and Father James Cuddy, O.P., stressed the necessity of respecting every member of our community. Jacqueline Peterson, advisor to the president for diversity, equity, and inclusion, mentioned that the Office of IDEI was working with SHEPHERD to determine strategies to make LGBT+ students feel safe. However, these responses failed to provide any concrete plan or decisive action that the College will take to protect its LGBT+ students.

On homosexuality, the Catechism of the Catholic Church says, "This inclination, which is objectively disordered, constitutes for most of them a trial. They must be accepted with respect, compassion, and sensitivity. Every sign of unjust discrimination in their regard should be avoided."

Although the Catechism then declares that homosexual marriage is forbidden within the Catholic Church, it does provide a minimal acknowledgement of homosexual peoples within the Church and encourages them to take on a life of chastity. While the pope's statement of support is not official Church doctrine, this is the first time a pope has been so explicit in presenting a view at odds with the Catholic Church on the rights of LGBT+ people.

The Roman Catholic Diocese of Providence has a history of maintaining an unforgiving stance on gay marriage by its religious authorities, namely Bishop Tobin. During Pride Month in June 2019, Providence received a message of hate that attracted not only national, but also global attention.

This message came from Bishop

Tobin in the form of a tweet that stated: "A reminder that Catholics should not support or attend LGBT+ 'Pride Month' events held in June. They promote a culture and encourage activities that are contrary to Catholic faith and morals. They are especially harmful for children."

Although the beginning statement is arguably in line with Catholic doctrine, how Bishop Tobin continued to fill in the 280 characters allowed by Twitter opens the door for misinterpretation and offensive undertones.

Providence College professors from a range of religious and political associations were interviewed in October of 2019 about Bishop Tobin's statement. They were in complete agreement that the tweet was a mistake. In the words of Father David Stokes, "I think it's unfortunate when clergy resort to tweets to score theological points. I thought it was lacking in pastoral sensitivity and just plain unnecessary." Dr. James Keating of the theology department reiterated this idea, remarking, "I thought it was stupid and he shouldn't have done it. Which I think he thought as well—I think the people around him thought it was ill-advised."

Both professors shared the same foundational idea: the statement should not have been tweeted because the word limit imposed by Twitter leaves massive space for misinterpretation of ideas. Due to the vague nature of this tweet, professors and students alike had a broad range of reactions and interpretations.

In addition to Fr. Stokes and Dr. Keating, Dr. Despina Prassas of the theology department shared that her initial reaction was, "That's the question—whether he, as shepherd of his flock, may not understand the commitment of all the members of the Catholic Church here in Rhode Island and is not able to support them."

As for student reactions, Jolssen Rodriguez '21 said, "Recognizing a month for our community's love and pride goes against anyone's Catholic morals who wears the same glasses as Bishop Tobin, but it does not go against Catholicism itself."

Regardless of what Bishop Tobin meant when he tweeted this message, he failed in his delivery. Rather than make a legitimate theological claim on the Church's teaching on marriage, Bishop Tobin's tweet was deeply hurtful to many within and outside of the Providence community.

Now, how should PC respond to the kind of rhetoric exhibited in Bishop Tobin's tweet? The College claims to be an accepting campus and in its Notice of Non-Discrimination, states: The College "does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national and ethnic origin, sex, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, disability, age, veteran status, or genetic information, in the administration of its education policies, admission policies, scholarship and loan programs, athletic and other College-administered programs, and employment policies."

The beginning of the College's Non-Discrimination statement explicitly



Bishop Thomas Tobin
@ThomasJTobin1

A reminder that Catholics should not support or attend LGBTQ "Pride Month" events held in June. They promote a culture and encourage activities that are contrary to Catholic faith and morals. They are especially harmful for children.

7:31 AM · Jun 1, 2019 · Twitter for iPhone

5.8K Retweets 34.1K Quote Tweets 24.5K Likes

Bishop Tobin's tweet regarding Pride marches in June of 2019 caught global attention.

PHOTO COURTESY OF TWITTER

affirms that PC is accepting of those of various sexual orientations, meaning of members of the LGBT+ community.

However, that same clause goes on to state that "the College reserves the right to take actions designed to ensure and promote its Catholic and Dominican mission."

This raises the question: to whom should Catholics, specifically Catholics at the College, look for an answer on where the Church stands on homosexuality? It is quite clear from Bishop Tobin's newest statement, in addition to his tweet, that he has low regard for the LGBT+ community—especially if he deems its activities "harmful to children."

Fr. Stokes, in response to Bishop Tobin's disconnect with the pope, stated, "I see the Church as having fragmented to such a degree that it will take decades to recover—and I'm not even sure that it would mean to recover. I'm afraid a faithful laity has been afflicted with a spiritual Stockholm syndrome by an inbred and rancid clericalism." Given the views that Bishop Tobin holds, which he expressed in his tweet, it is evident that he is contributing to that division within the Catholic Church, especially with his recent statement in response to Pope Francis.

Bishop Tobin's involvement at PC is written into the Bylaws of Providence College, making it difficult for LGBT+ students to feel accepted by the College, which already struggles with inclusivity as it is. In the bylaws, it is established that one of the powers of the Corporation of the College is: "To elect members of the Corporation and of the Board of Trustees and when, in its sole discretion required for the good of the College, to remove the President of the College, or any member of the Corporation or of the Board of Trustees, excepting only the Roman Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of Providence (Bishop) and the Provincial of the Province of St. Joseph, Order of Preachers (Provincial)."

This statement establishes that the Bishop of Providence can never be removed from the Board of Trustees or the Corporation. Thus, Dr. Keating is justified in suggesting that "there's no way on God's green earth that PC is going to say to the bishop that he isn't welcomed here because we're now an accepting campus—that's not how things work in the Church."

However, the bylaws also state that a power of the Corporation is: "To adopt and amend these bylaws, at any time and from time to time, in any and every respect not inconsistent with the Charter and all amendments thereto." Thus, the bylaws of the

College do allow for amendments to the bylaws. In fact, the bylaws have been amended 18 times since they first became effective in 1992.

An amendment that would change the College's relationship with the bishop may not be possible, and if it is, the process would likely be difficult and lengthy considering the College's relationship with the Catholic Church and the diocese of Providence.

Nonetheless, the College should at least consider this avenue given the amount of hurt that Bishop Tobin's statements have caused to members of the community, and given the fact that the Corporation is allowed to remove the President of the College and other members of the Corporation and Board of Trustees when necessary.

An amendment of PC's bylaws to remove the clause "excepting only the Roman Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of Providence," in no way means that the bishop would no longer hold a position in the Corporation or on the Board of Trustees, but it would give the College the power to remove the Bishop of Providence from its Board of Trustees if necessary, a power it has with the president of the College and any other Board member.

With this power, the College could thus remove a bishop, like Bishop Tobin, who, in some of his public comments, fails to consistently show love and respect to LGBT+ people. This is an important part of protecting the LBGT+ community on campus and acknowledging their experiences.

As many in our community have suggested and will continue suggest, the College should take the following actions in order to protect its LGBT+ students:

- Hire a Chief Diversity Officer that is well versed in LGBT+-related issues.
- Allow student groups to use the word "pride" in events in support of the LGBT+ community.
- Amend the Bylaws of Providence College to remove the clause "excepting only the Roman Catholic Bishop of the Diocese of Providence."
- Release an official statement from the College or President's Office in support of its LBGT+ students in light of Pope Francis's comments, and address Bishop Tobin's response in said statement given the fact that it hurt members of the PC community.

To the administration of PC, I ask, what is next? Where are we heading from here? You must consider the message you are sending to your LGBT+ students. We are here, and we are paying close attention.

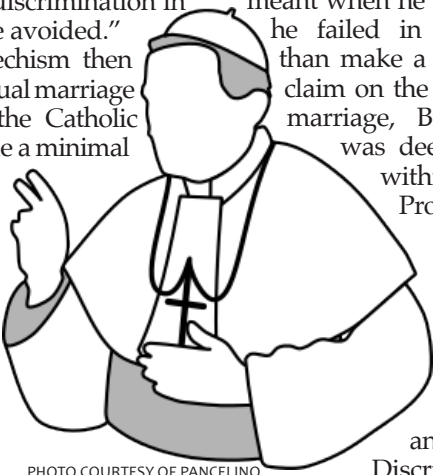


PHOTO COURTESY OF PANCELINO

Tackling Title IX Changes

PC’s Response to New Federal Guidelines is Promising

by Julia McCoy ’22
Opinion Staff

CAMPUS

Trigger Warning: This piece discusses sexual assault.

Earlier this year, amidst the COVID-19 pandemic and an upheaval of their daily routines, college students were faced with more troublesome news. The federal guidelines surrounding Title IX had changed and would affect the way sexual assault is handled at their schools.

Federal Title IX changes were produced in response to lawsuits claiming that schools were being biased against “responding parties,” or those who were accused of an offense. While the guidelines were issued to try and eliminate those biases, students and survivor rights advocates worry that stricter guidelines would prevent justice from being served.

This news, of course, affects students across the country and here at Providence College. The new regulations, passed by the Department of Education, address issues such as cross-examination processes, types of acceptable evidence, and the locations that colleges have jurisdiction over.

However, one of the most important things to recognize in this situation is the significance of choice. If the current federal administration is choosing to roll back certain policies, a school is not liable to follow suit. According to Jeffrey Hill of the Rhode Island Department of Health, a school cannot do less than what the federal guidelines require, “but certainly they can exceed them.”

Freedom of choice, then, belongs to the College. Individual schools have the right to deal with issues in their own way, as long as they meet minimum federal guidelines. So, how did PC’s administration respond to these regulations?

The first major change was the introduction of a federally mandated cross-examination process.

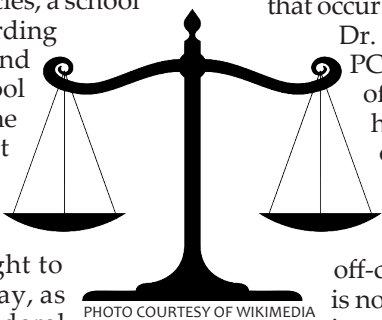


PHOTO COURTESY OF WIKIMEDIA

The proposal for cross-examination has been considered for years now, but was just passed at the federal level in the hopes that information received during these processes would be more reliable.

Ideally, a cross-examination ensures that each party has the opportunity to answer questions truthfully and that the investigative parties have access to these statements. According to Gail Dyer, J.D., a member of the General Counsel team at PC, “No information should go to the decision makers unless it is fully tested and deemed reliable.” This prevents false information and evidence from being included in the decision-making processes.

Of course, there was some hesitation with this introduction, as it could cause retraumatization for the survivor or intimidation of either party. PC is doing its best to combat this. Survivors do not have to be in the same room as the person they are reporting against. As Dyer said, “Being in the same space may hinder that search for truth.” Instances of PTSD or retraumatization could certainly affect the search for the truth, so the College is promising safe spaces as a way to avoid this issue.

The federal government also gave colleges “discretion to respond, or not to respond, to conduct that is not covered by Title IX.” This includes situations that may arise at non-school sanctioned events, such as off-campus parties.

Because off-campus parties are not covered under Title IX, students had reason to believe that instances that occur off-campus would be ignored by the school.

Dr. James Campbell, the Title IX coordinator at PC, responded to these concerns, saying, “An offense might not be a Title IX offense, but we have rewritten our policies so that something offensive like that is still a violation. The College is still saying that behavior is not acceptable.”

Although a situation that occurs at an off-campus event not sanctioned by the College is not covered by Title IX, the College would not ignore the issue. Rather, these issues would be handled by a Community Standards procedure.

It is in the best interest of the College to continue to handle these off-campus offenses regardless of what federal protections state. We, as students, are

contracted by the College to follow certain rules. The Student Handbook is, according to Jeffrey Hill, a “contract between you and the school. The student code of conduct applies to all students.”

As the handbook states, students have “the right to coexist peacefully with other members of the Providence College community, which includes the right to protection against force, violence, threat, harassment, and abuse.” Because these are the rights afforded to us by PC, the College has an obligation to protect us, wherever we may be, from having said rights violated. The administration recognizes this, which is why there are procedures in place that exceed the guidelines of the federal government.

The new federal guideline also gives schools the option to choose between two different types of evidence to accept. The first is a higher standard, known as clear and convincing. The second option is a lower standard: preponderance of evidence—this has been the practice of the College. The administration has chosen to keep preponderance of evidence as its standard, which it believes “reflects best practice,” according to Dyer.

Essentially, there was an option to make the requirements of evidence much tighter. However, the College decided that this was not necessary in their procedures.

If students were worried about a lack of mandated reporting on campus, it seems their worries can be quelled at PC. The College maintains that any faculty—except those confidential resources such as the Health Center, the Personal Counseling Center, and the chaplains—is a mandated reporter.

Additionally, the College introduced a new group of “Officials with Authority” (OWA). These staff members are required to report any information related to a possible incident of misconduct to the office of Dr. Campbell. If anything, these introductions make faculty more accountable for reporting issues they are aware of on campus.

Students’ anxiety surrounding changes to Title IX was certainly justified, as the federal guidelines could have created a more dangerous environment on college campuses for survivors. However, the College has used its discretion to ensure that students are supported, whether on or off campus.

Just How Catholic are Catholic Schools?

Taking Pride in the Strength of PC’s Catholic Identity

by Joseph Kulesza ’22
Opinion Staff

CAMPUS

If it is in the name, does it have to be true? A three-ring binder has three rings; a ferris wheel is indeed in the shape of a wheel; and a water bottle can and usually does hold water. But are Catholic schools actually Catholic?

Critics of Catholic schools have spoken out against the authenticity of these institutions, suggesting that “Catholic” schools are only Catholic in name.

An article published by *The Atlantic* in 2015 accused Catholic schools of not practicing what they preach, stating that “six of the top 20 nonprofit colleges that are most expensive for low-income students are Catholic institutions.” This *Atlantic* writer argued that Catholic schools exercise a preferential option for their endowments rather than a preferential option for the poor.

Catholic schools have been further criticized for both giving into and adopting certain curricular fads similar to those of their secular counterparts. While many of these decisions have been optional, the more well-known instances of these curricular changes have been the adoption of state-mandated common core curriculums in several Catholic high schools.

While there is plenty of criticism directed towards Catholic schools as a whole, readers of this article are likely wondering where Providence College falls into this mix.

At first glance, Providence College appears to be a Catholic school in many respects. There are crucifixes on the walls in each classroom, Gothic buildings that are a hallmark of the Church, and Dominicans walking around campus in white habits.

But, appearance does not always infer essence, and, as in all things, there can be difference between what is and what appears to be. The question now becomes whether or not this adage applies to PC. The answer to this question is best found in the people on campus, rather than the campus itself.

Inside the Ruane Center for the Humanities, Dominicans and professors alike can be seen passionately teaching one of the several staple Development of Western Civilization courses. These courses, as well as the professors who teach them, make Providence College the college it is—so much so that those three letters, D-W-C, will remain meaningful to students for the rest of their lives, and will likely give them flashbacks to reading the *Aeneid*.

Over the lockdown, friars rode around on golf carts playing guitars, making it on virtually every Eaton



A look inside the chapel of Providence College, a Catholic institution of higher education.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PROVIDENCE.EDU

Street resident’s Snapchat story and brought them hope in an otherwise not so hopeful period.

And finally, whether students realize it or not, a large network of faculty, staff, and friars work every day for the further development of students, so that they can leave this campus with more than just a good job offer.

The members of the campus community contribute to the institution more than any other factor ever will, and in this way, the people of PC living out the Catholic mission make the College deserving of its Catholic title.

With this said, in many cases the criticisms directed at Catholic schools are fair. The higher education marketplace has become a cut-throat industry, where many colleges (not just Catholic ones) are willing to barter their integrity to increase their endowment, selectivity, or prestige.

Anthony Carnevale, a professor at Georgetown University who commented in the previously mentioned *Atlantic* article entitled “The Irony of Catholic Colleges,” summarized the situation well: “Christianity, let alone Catholicism, is supposed to be about taking care of each other and throwing the money changers out of the temple, but Jesus didn’t have to run a college.”

Deciding between integrity and competition is something that Catholic schools have to consider now more than ever before. The hope is that these schools side with integrity, as it can be argued that a corrupt school is worse than a bankrupt one.

Thankfully, PC’s commitment to its Catholic identity can be seen throughout and experienced on campus. As such, students can be proud to attend a college that remains true to its Catholic title.

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The Cowl Launches Cross-Campus Listening Tour



by **Andrea Traietti '21**
Editor-in-Chief

EDITOR'S COLUMN

This week's issue marks the official start to *The Cowl's* listening tour across campus, as we publish the first in a series of articles on the topic of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) at Providence College.

As part of our listening tour series, *The Cowl* will be publishing an article relating to DEI in each issue of the paper for the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year. With our listening tour, our intention is to learn more about the experiences of BIPOC members of our community; bring attention to the efforts of different clubs, organizations, and departments that are working on social justice initiatives; and promote strategies for

active anti-racism at PC and beyond.

The listening tour series is one of the ways we are working to follow through on the commitments we made to the PC community over the summer.

In July, *The Cowl* appeared on the @BlackatPC Instagram page in a post that highlighted a 2017 incident in which *The Cowl* published an article which used racist terminology and subsequently failed to apologize appropriately. The incident conveyed clearly to us that when it comes to DEI work and anti-racism, *The Cowl* has a long way to go.

In our response to that post, and in a statement on anti-racism that we had issued earlier in the summer following the murder of George Floyd, we committed to making improvements in our organization and to being active participants in anti-racism at the College.

When we turned to Quincy Bevely and Nick Sailor '17 of the Office of Institutional Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for their insight and advice on following through on those commitments, they generously lent their time and suggestions—one of which was a listening tour. We owe credit for this idea to them.

We are so excited to put this plan into action because it fits perfectly with another point that Quincy and Nick made when we met with them: too often, we treat DEI work as something separate from the other parts of our life, when in reality, DEI should be a lens through which we see each and every part of our

lives and the world around us.

That is why articles that we publish as part of our listening tour will appear in different sections of the newspaper each week, in News one week, but in Arts & Entertainment or Sports the next.

Each week, a different member of *The Cowl* will conduct an interview with another student, administrator, faculty member, or staff member to cover a specific DEI-related topic.

Our goals in connecting and conversing with these members of our community are two-fold, internal and external: first, we hope that as a staff, this initiative will enable us to listen and learn more about the initiatives taking place on our campus and the experiences of our BIPOC community members.

Second, we hope that by publishing what we learn from these conversations, we can help to amplify the voices of members of our community that have been marginalized for far too long and bring attention to causes across campus that need our action and support.

Our listening tour is only one step that we are taking in a movement for social justice that we know requires consistent and continuous action on our part. As we continue to build on this initiative and develop others, we invite the PC community to join us on our tour by reading each week, and we look forward to connecting with our readership and the community at large on our mission to listen, learn, and take action.

TANGENTS & TIRADES

PC Should Have Gone Paperless

COVID-19 has fueled an unyielding number of questions regarding how to go about maintaining a regular education at Providence College. Post-quarantine, faculty and staff have had to consider these concerns that much more. Professors are social distancing, meeting students both through Zoom and in class, and spending countless hours attempting to avoid the virus while preserving beneficial instruction for their students.

While this may be true, one notable issue still stands strong amidst even the hardest of efforts: the continuous spread of physical paperwork to and from professors and their students.

In making the many necessary changes to campus and academic life at PC, the College should have considered going entirely paperless for the semester. By going paperless, professors could have become more adept at the online schooling and grading forced onto them by the pandemic.

In addition to increasing adaptability and fluidity in the new online, hybrid, and in-person classrooms, the avoidance of physical paper handouts or submissions could potentially lessen both the risk and exposure of COVID-19 for students and professors. While professors are struggling to adapt to grading online, the reality of a paperless PC may seem understandably undesirable. However, in trying times like these, any potential of decreasing exposure is worth a shot.

— Madeline Morkin '22



Students Should Consider a Remote Spring Semester

Being on campus with friends, living in the dorms, and meeting new people in Raymond Dining Hall and Alumni Hall Food Court are highlights that every Providence College student looks forward to each academic year. However, this year, many of those highlights have been taken away or changed to ensure the safety of all students during the ongoing pandemic.

All students at PC have seen and experienced the struggle that followed the return of in-person classes this fall semester. Looking ahead: should students elect for a remote spring semester?

If students decide to learn remotely next semester, they will not be able to enjoy the privileges that come with living on campus. Ultimately, however, safety must be everyone's top priority.

Not only do students need to think about their own safety, but they also must consider how their return to campus will impact the safety of professors, staff, and fellow students. When living on campus, there is a lot of opportunity to mingle and interact with fellow students, and this can have dangerous health implications during the pandemic.

Although it is a difficult choice, electing for remote instruction during the spring semester will allow students, faculty, and staff to have a safer experience, as it will allow for learning to occur with far less contact than it would on a college campus.

—Erin Garvey '22



Remote Friars are Still Part of the Friar Family

This year's midterm week is more stressful than previous years, and a contributing factor to that stress is COVID-19. With such a large number of Providence College students studying remotely this semester, it can be difficult to check in with students' mental health during stressful times.

PC has done a lot during this Mental Health Awareness Month to create an open dialogue about mental health with the students on campus. On Oct. 19, a thousand pinwheels were placed on Slavin Lawn in remembrance of college-aged people who died by suicide. Events such as this help to eliminate the stigma around mental health, but how does this help PC students learning from home?

The College has been busy planning "The Great Friar Comeback" after the outbreak in September. Amidst the commotion, though, the College seems to have neglected checking in with students studying remotely. These are very difficult times for everyone, and especially during Mental Health Awareness Month, the administration needs to show its support to fellow Friars who are not on campus.

We must encourage the College to demonstrate the same levels of concern for remote students as they do for on-campus students. These are challenging times for everyone; therefore, students and administration must ensure that all students are given the same support.

—Katie Bellbusti '22




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PHOTOGRAPHY



JACK DOWNEY '23/ THE COWL



JACK DOWNEY '23/ THE COWL



RYAN TWOMEY '23/ THE COWL

ABOVE: John Perry '24, Michael Dion '24, and Lily Alessandro '24 attended BOP's "Tie Dye A Mask" event on Sunday, Oct. 18 on Slavin Lawn where students were able to customize their own face mask. While waiting for their new face mask to dry, students could walk across Slavin Lawn to make a self-care goody bag and grab a candy apple from the "Fall Friar Marketplace" hosted by SAIL. Kylie Taylor '24 and Tally Theder '24 decorated pumpkins that were also provided at the marketplace.

LEFT: Vanessa Davies '24 and Tony Rendon '24 attended the "Soaring Above Stigma" event on Wednesday, Oct. 21. Students could fly kites on Slavin Lawn or just soak in the sun and enjoy the nice weather at this event hosted by Active Minds.

BELOW: BOP's annual "1000 Voices" display was arranged on Slavin Lawn from sunrise to sunset on Monday, Oct. 19. The yellow pinwheels are meant to commemorate and bring awareness to collegiate suicide.



ROVING PHOTOGRAPHY

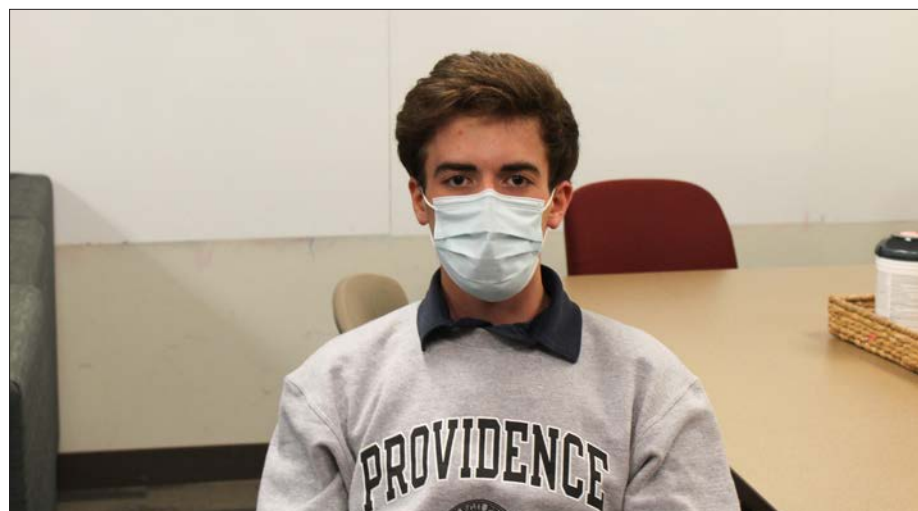
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October 29, 2020

What type of Halloween candy would you be and why?



"Candy Corn: I'm corny."
Caitlin Ariel '24



"Jolly Rancher: I'm happiest while farming."
Griffin May '24



"Reese's Peanut Butter Cups: they are everyone's favorite."
Austin Whitaker '24



"Butterfinger: I'm clumsy."
Angela Mitsuma '23



"Snickers: there is more beneath the surface."
Cole Patno '24



"Skittles: they make people smile."
Melissa Paugh '21



"M&M's"

-Eminem

PHOTO COURTESY OF FLICKR

Photos by Jack Downey '23, Staff Photographer

Phasmophobia: Play This Innovative Horror Game

Get in the Halloween Spirit with this Immersive Experience

by Dave Argento '21
A&E Staff

VIDEO GAMES

While most ghost-hunting television shows will make audiences more likely to laugh than shiver, the immersive elements of the newly trending game, *Phasmophobia*, takes players further than any psychological horror video game has before. Four ambitious ghost hunters team up to investigate and report on the paranormal activities that have been on the rise in settings such as a school, several street houses, farmhouses, and a massive insane asylum. The group of players must use their limited ghost-hunting equipment to find as much evidence as possible to locate and report the ghost they are dealing with, but only if they are not caught in the process. What separates *Phasmophobia* from other horror titles is not the graphics or the complexity, but rather the innovative use of audio and video functions that only gaming currently allows. Players must all connect through the in-game audio features to communicate with one another, making proximity to your friends vital to not be snuck up on by a murderous specter during the game. The game makes use of word recognition to tailor the experience to the players. Each ghost has a name that causes an in-game reaction when spoken allowed. Say the ghost's name one too many times and your buddies might not hear your voice again. What takes *Phasmophobia* to the next level is the virtual reality capabilities that can make an unexpected player lose some sleep at night. This combination of realistic visuals, looking around the room physically, and the whispers that ghosts will slip through your headphones makes the hunt more realistic than expected. You will find yourself conversing with an in-game ghost that responds in chilling ways.

Rich Stanton, a games journalist, writes, "*Phasmophobia's* genius is that this is a game of restraint and subtlety." As you get more comfortable with the minimalist designs of items, which you can only carry three at a time, and character movements, the ghosts you will encounter become increasingly aggressive and playful. They will cut you off from your team, breath into your ear, and send silhouettes past you for brief seconds, leaving you not as confident as you entered. Each round, your team will earn a certain amount of in-game money for your job performance in identifying the ghosts, losing money for each crew member that did not make it back. *Phasmophobia* has skyrocketed in popularity since

its release on Sept. 18 due to the many Twitch.tv streamers and YouTubers that have been enjoying it. According to TwitchTracker.com, *Phasmophobia* was the fifth most-streamed game in the first week of October 2020. Its long-term success will depend on whether the game developers will be able to tighten up gameplay optimization and add new content to keep players wanting more. At the reasonable price point of \$13.99 on the Steam Community Market, *Phasmophobia* is the perfect way for you and your friends to test your fear factors this Halloween. Shut the lights off, crank up your headphones, and good luck finding out just how afraid of ghosts you are.



PHOTO COURTESY OF TIMTIM ON YOUTUBE

Phasmophobia uses audio and video capabilities unique to gaming to allow players to collaborate in order to find a ghost lurking close by.

Fact-Checking Frankenstein's Creature

The Common Misconception about the Halloween Monster

by Madison Palmieri '22
A&E Staff

LITERATURE/FILM

If asked to name the most iconic creatures associated with Halloween, Frankenstein's monster would likely come to mind. Indeed, the giant, green, raggedly-stitched monster is a quintessential symbol of the spooky holiday. Frankenstein's creature has been brought to life in over 20 television and film adaptations, from the 1910 silent film *Frankenstein* to the 2019 horror film *Depraved*. The creature's influence also expands beyond traditional forms of media. For instance, each Halloween, General Mills sells a "Franken-Berry" cereal. Needless to say, Frankenstein's creature is a staple mythic figure in Western society; however, this monster is not exactly who people think he is. The tale of Frankenstein's monster begins with its creator, English writer, Mary Shelley. According to History.com, "Mary Shelley created the story on a rainy afternoon in 1816 in Geneva, where she was staying with her husband, the poet Percy Bysshe Shelley, their friend Lord Byron and

Lord Byron's physician, John Polidori. The group, trapped indoors by the inclement weather, passed the time telling and writing ghost stories." Evidently, Shelley's tale haunted her, as she developed it into a novel over the course of the year and eventually published it on Jan. 1, 1818. In the final version of *Frankenstein*, as History.com explains, "A scientist animates a creature constructed from dismembered corpses. The gentle, intellectually gifted creature is enormous and physically hideous. Cruelly rejected by its creator, it wanders, seeking companionship and becoming increasingly brutal as it fails to find a mate." From this description, as well as from prior knowledge, it would appear to be obvious that this creature is Frankenstein; however, the monster, the creation of Dr. Victor Frankenstein, goes unnamed. Obviously, today, the name Frankenstein conjures not images of this frazzled man in a lab coat, but rather his green, monstrous creation. This misidentification may be due to the novel's title: the simple *Frankenstein*—more commonly used than its alternative title, *The Modern Prometheus*—could lead those who had not read the book to associate its title with its most well-known character.

This phenomenon may have also occurred when Shelley's novel was adapted for the stage and screen. According to the entertainment website, The Mary Sue, "Somewhere in the past 195 years, people began referring to The Creature itself as 'Frankenstein.' We're not sure exactly when that happened, but our theory is that it happened around the time of the 1931 James Whale Universal Studios adaptation. The poster for which, prominently features The Creature and the word 'Frankenstein.' Anyone not familiar with the story, could easily conclude that the monster in the poster is named Frankenstein." The site also suggests, however, that this modern misidentification might not be entirely incorrect: "The Creature considers himself the child of Victor Frankenstein. He self-identifies as a Frankenstein, and we think that choice should be respected. That's why calling The Creature by that name isn't actually incorrect. He thinks he is the son of Victor Frankenstein, so it makes sense that he would take that name." Regardless of whether Frankenstein's monster has a rightful claim to the famous name, it is clear that society has Mary Shelley and her 1818 novel to thank for one of Halloween's most recognizable symbols.

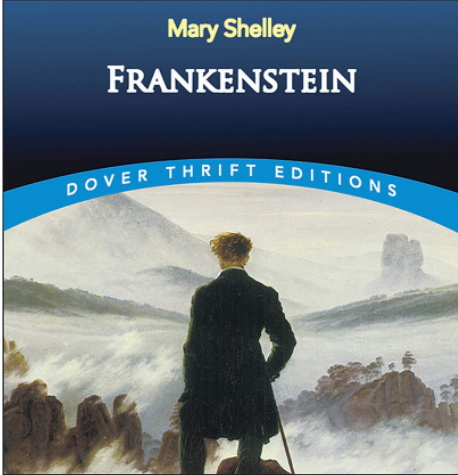


PHOTO COURTESY OF AMAZON.COM



PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB

The Haunting of Bly Manor: Inciting Authentic Fear

How the Adaptation Demonstrated Spiritual Connectedness

by Grace O'Connor '22
A&E Staff

TELEVISION

The Haunting of Bly Manor is an intriguing new show perfect for the Halloween season. Mike Flanagan, the showrunner, based this show off of Henry James's novella *The Turn of the Screw*. Released on Oct. 9, it comes two years after Flanagan's previous show, *The Haunting of Hill*

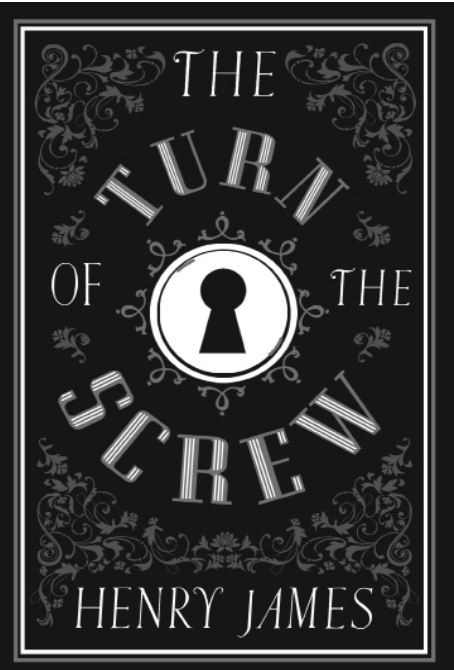


PHOTO COURTESY OF ALMA BOOKS

House, the first show in *The Haunting* anthology. Flanagan learned what did not work well in *The Haunting of Hill House* and used those lessons to create *The Haunting of Bly Manor*. NPR stated, “*The Haunting of Bly Manor* creator and showrunner Flanagan seems to have absorbed the lessons of *Hill House*’s abiding flaw, and course-corrected. Without spoiling anything, I will say that *Bly Manor* nails the all-important dismount, and does so in a sincere, humane, and bittersweet way that directly addresses the nature, and the purpose, of grief. It’s not overtly tidy or dully expositional—yet it feels, in the best way, inevitable.” Flanagan worked to pursue a larger viewer base, using what worked well in the previous season to enhance the new installment. As stated in an article in *Elle*, “Nobody who watched Netflix’s *The Haunting of Hill House* could ever forget The Bent-Neck Lady—or the array of terrifying hidden ghosts peppered throughout the show. But the follow-up season *The Haunting of Bly Manor* features a much bigger range of apparitions and scary visions, some of which are ghosts in the traditional sense, while others are a manifestation of trauma.” Rather than the premise of the show coming to light in the season finale, the reveal comes earlier. Other than this, the tangible feelings that come across in this new season are felt more by viewers because they

are based on romantic relationships rather than the family at hand. After a tragic death, a young woman finds herself caring for two children. The English estate in which they live is full of spirits, and the nanny realizes this soon after she arrives. The governess, Hannah, believes that the children can see the ghosts, too. She learns that the ghosts are her predecessors who were in love. KQED describes *The Haunting of Hill House* as being “filled with strong performances and unsettling images both overt (every episode came factory-installed with a jump scare) and subtle (showrunner Mike Flanagan packed the shadows in many shots with the barely perceptible ghost-faces—so if you were a chicken (hi!) who sensed a big scare coming and executed your go-to move of averting your eyes to stare into the bottom-left corner of the screen, you’d find a pale eyeless

face staring back at you.” The thrillers add to the overall effect of the show and keep the viewers binge-watching. The series was No. 1 on Netflix’s Top 10 list for a week straight, and, according to *Forbes* magazine, “seem[ed] to show no signs of letting up any time soon as other comers like *Emily in Paris* and the final season of *Schitt’s Creek* can’t catch it.” This show emphasizes the connection between the spirits of the world. Flanagan claims the characters “all have a very dark edge to them. And by the end, it’s really hard to differentiate between tragedy with romance. That sense of romantic longing for someone who meant so much to us—but who’s gone—really is the heart of any ghost story.” This comment elucidates the authenticity that Flanagan emphasizes in *The Haunting of Bly Manor*. The show illustrates the raw feelings that accompany grief and the bond that love creates in a relationship.



PHOTO COURTESY OF IMDB

The Haunting of Bly Manor combines traditional horror elements with a focus on the tragedy of romance.

BTS’s Virtual Concert, Map of the Soul ON:E

The Show that Won Big with Creative Technology

by Sara Conway '21
A&E Co-Editor

MUSIC

BTS’s most recent title track, “On,” has a lyric that goes, “Can’t hold me down cuz you know I’m a fighter,” and no line fits the seven-member group better than this one. Not much has deterred the band, who is arguably the most famous group in the world right now. In the past two weeks, BTS has won the Top Social Artist Award at the Billboard Music Awards (BBMAs) for the fourth year in a row, held the No. 1 and No. 2 spots on Billboard’s Hot 100 (for “Savage Love” with Jason Derulo and Jawsh 865 and their English single, “Dynamite,” respectively)—a feat only four other artists have accomplished—and successfully held a two-day online concert amidst the chaos of COVID-19. The band’s original Map of the Soul world tour was supposed to kick-off in Seoul this past April, but all of the dates were eventually canceled. Then, on Aug. 13, Big Hit Entertainment, BTS’s company, announced Map of the Soul ON:E (MOTS ON:E). This new concert had an in-person component for those in South Korea, but due to COVID-19, fans around the world attended the concert virtually on Oct. 10 and 11. The change of plans did not limit BTS and their crew from executing above-and-beyond performances. MOTS ON:E tickets were sold through Big Hit’s app called Weverse. For once, the BTS ticket buying experience was not accompanied by the fear of the event selling out. The live concert was in 4K or HD if fans were utilizing the multi-view, starting at 6 a.m. EST on Oct. 10 and 3 a.m. on Oct. 11. Big Hit also added a delayed viewing option that would open a few hours after the live version had ended. According to Billboard, almost one million fans from around the world attended this BTS weekend concert. The innovative sets and technology utilized for MOTS ON:E created a memorable online concert experience, especially for those who had never attended one before. MOTS ON:E included multi-

view live streaming, extended reality (XR), and augmented reality (AR). Following the concert, fans had the option of purchasing entrance into the virtual BTS Exhibition Map of the Soul ON:E (오, 늘) to continue enhancing their concert experience. BTS concerts are well-known for their high-quality performances and creative use of technology, and MOTS ON:E was no different. Out of the four stages they used, the group started with the one that featured a jutting rock, a symbol taken from the music video of “On,” which was also the opening song of the concert. This stage captured the metaphor for all of the mountains BTS has overcome together over the past seven years and for the current struggle of COVID-19. However, just as the lyric from “On” says, BTS fought through these challenges, especially seen in how they held a concert for themselves and their fans in the middle of a pandemic. The innovation did not stop there. During leader RM’s solo song, “Intro: Persona,” a giant version of him appeared with the help of AR technology. Rapper Suga started the performance of his track, “Interlude: Shadow,” in a horizontal hallway of



PHOTO COURTESY OF BIG HIT ENTERTAINMENT ON TWITTER

flexible white screens, reminiscent of the song’s music video, where people behind them leaned in to touch him, causing the space to grow even smaller. The youngest member, Jungkook, multiplied himself through screen projections during his solo, “My Time.” An infinite number of Jungkooks were reflected behind him, following the real artist’s movements and creating a funhouse effect. BTS showed off the capabilities of the XR stage through their performances of “DNA,” “Dope,” and “No More Dream,” their debut song. Fans saw the seven members dance their famous “DNA” choreography in a brightly colored outer space scene, and their performance of “Dope” inside of a racing retro elevator, which occasionally stopped in different worlds like a snowy mountain landscape. “No More Dream” was less visually overwhelming than the other two but no less engaging and exciting. Playing off of the Korean meaning of BTS’s name (“Bangtan Sonyeondan” translates to “Bulletproof Boy Scouts”), this stage featured flying bullets that seemed like they would hit the seven members and explosions that erupted at their feet as they sang about not having a dream. The closing song of the concert, “We are Bulletproof: the Eternal,” also referenced BTS’s name and linked their journey with their ARMY (“Adorable Representative M.C. for Youth,” the acronym for their fans) who have always supported them. A group of fans from around the world was included in the last part of the concert via video, so BTS could see some faces of their ARMY. During this finale, other fans were projected onto floating cubes, adding to the idea that BTS and ARMY form their own mini universe. As RM said in his ending statement, “BTS is not just a story of seven people. It’s a story of you, me, and everyone.” BTS’s MOTS ON:E virtual concert emphasized togetherness, regardless of being separated by time and screens. With its innovative use of technology to enhance the group’s dynamic performances, BTS and their fans created new connections through this event, even in a world divided by COVID-19.

In Memoriam: Remembering Eddie Van Halen

Legendary Guitarist Passes Away at 65 from Lung Cancer

by Daniel O'Neill '21
A&E Staff

MUSIC

On Tuesday, Oct. 6, Eddie Van Halen passed away at the age of 65 from cancer. His god-like guitar riffs made him one of the most important and respected guitarists of all time. His band, Van Halen, is often considered to be one of the greatest rock groups of all time. His passing is a major blow to the music industry and to fans around the world.

Eddie Van Halen is also well known among his peers for his two-handed tapping of the guitar's fretboard. He utilized this technique most notably in hit songs like "Eruption," "Hot for Teacher," and Michael Jackson's "Beat It." His band, Van Halen, was formed in 1972 in Pasadena, CA. Originally, the band was named Mammoth, but eventually changed to the name Van Halen, since the band was the brainchild of both of the Van Halen brothers. Under their new name, the band started playing clubs and bars throughout the Pasadena area and made a name for themselves locally.

As the band grew, so did Eddie Van Halen. Van Halen released its self-titled debut album, which rose to No. 19 on the Billboard 200. From there on, the band started touring and releasing more albums. In their album 1984, Eddie Van Halen debuted his



Eddie Van Halen was famous for playing guitar solos with two hands on the fretboard. masterful finger-tapping technique in "Hot for Teacher," and the band got their first and only No. 1 single, "Jump." Van Halen took the music industry by storm, creating a harder and louder rock and roll sound than previous legends like Jimmy Page. Countless members of the music industry paid tribute to the passed guitar legend on social media.

Friends of Eddie Van Halen, the thrash metal band Metallica, tweeted, "We are enormously saddened to hear about the untimely passing of Eddie Van Halen. We considered him an inspiration, an idol, and after spending a summer together on the road in '88, a friend. Sending love to Alex, @wolfvanhalen & everyone in the greater VH family." Other legends from that era including Nikki Sixx, Gene Simmons, Steven Tyler, and AC/DC all shared their thoughts and feelings about the passing of a legend in music history, a friend, and contemporary of their individual crafts.

Eddie Van Halen's legacy will be one that lasts for decades to come. His impact not only on rock and roll, but also the music industry as a whole was immense. Listeners today will find the hard-driving guitar style he popularized just as energetic and lively as it was in the 1980s. The impact Eddie Van Halen had on the world of music can be seen in songs like "Jump" and "Panama," which are widely recognized for their catchy pop feel despite being driven by rock and roll forces. The pure speed and energy that Van Halen exerted through his guitar influenced rock, metal, and even blues guitarists that came after him. The world will truly miss the glamorous excitement that Eddie Van Halen brought to music.

The Bachelorette Premieres with Oldest Contestant Yet

What this Means for a Culture that Idolizes Young Beauty



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BERT SHOW
Clare Crawley stars in season 16 of The Bachelorette.

by Nikki Idelson '22
A&E Staff

TELEVISION

Clare Crawley graced the screens of Bachelor Nation on Tuesday, Oct. 13. *The Bachelorette* will be airing every Tuesday night at 8 p.m. for the next 12 weeks. With COVID-19 delaying the show, safety considerations posed new challenges for the filming crew. Surprisingly, another new feature to the show is the Bachelorette herself.

At 39 years old, Clare Crawley is the oldest Bachelorette in all of *The Bachelorette* history. She was featured on Juan Pablo's season of *The Bachelor*, two seasons of *Bachelor in Paradise*, as well as *The Bachelor Winter Games*. She has faced heartbreak, but has also treated each of these experiences as opportunities to learn and grow, saying, "With age comes more life experience and self confidence."

However, she also experienced ageism in this season. CNN notes, "Up until Crawley's season, the average age of the 'Bachelorette'" was 27. The

show has featured a woman in her 30s as the lead just twice." This shows how *The Bachelorette* is beginning to break out of its age-old tradition of having solely individuals in their 20s on the show.

This ageism is demonstrated in the trailer at least twice. One contestant storms off, shouting, "I expected way more from the oldest Bachelorette." In another scene, Crawley is in tears, yelling, "Sick, sick! I don't care what I've done, to sit there and say 'You're the oldest Bachelorette that's 39 that's standing here single,' it's because I didn't settle for men like that." These two instances show that ageism led the contestants to expect her to act a certain way simply because she is the oldest Bachelorette.

Further, Crawley has faced the unfair assumption that she should simply accept however she is treated and take whatever she is given because she is "single at 39." However, Crawley has fought against this idea. In the above quote, she is essentially saying that she is not single because she is "difficult" but, instead, because she will not settle for just anyone. With this season of *The Bachelorette*, Crawley has fought against the harmful stereotype that if an individual has not found their "soulmate" by the time they hit their mid-30s, then they should, and are expected to, throw in the towel completely and stop searching.

However, with Crawley being the Bachelorette, she has shown that one can find love and be desirable even at an older age. She has even turned her age into a positive attribute, saying in an interview with *Good Morning America*, "I feel like a lot of people put [my age] out there as a negative thing. But for me, it is just more years under my belt, more learning and knowing what I want, what I don't want, and what I won't settle for." Crawley has emphasized that women should not settle for or accept poor treatment simply because they want to find love before they hit their mid-30s, but they should instead understand that they deserve to be treated well, and, therefore, should not settle or give up on finding love.

Melissa Silverstein, the founder and publisher of Women and Hollywood, said that this season of

The Bachelorette helps to show that "romance and sexuality aren't just for the young." This season will be monumental in helping to change this stereotype and show that women can find love at any age.



PHOTO COURTESY OF US WEEKLY
Clare Crawley has been on seasons of The Bachelor before, but the show nominated her to be The Bachelorette for season 16.



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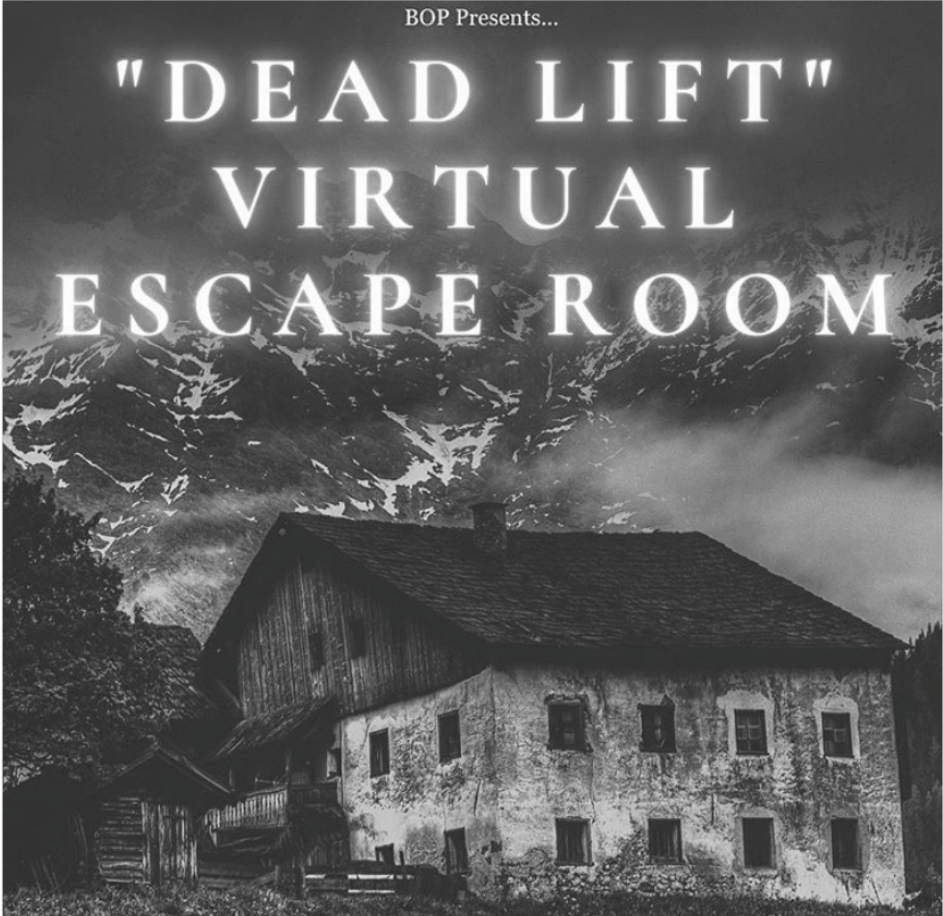
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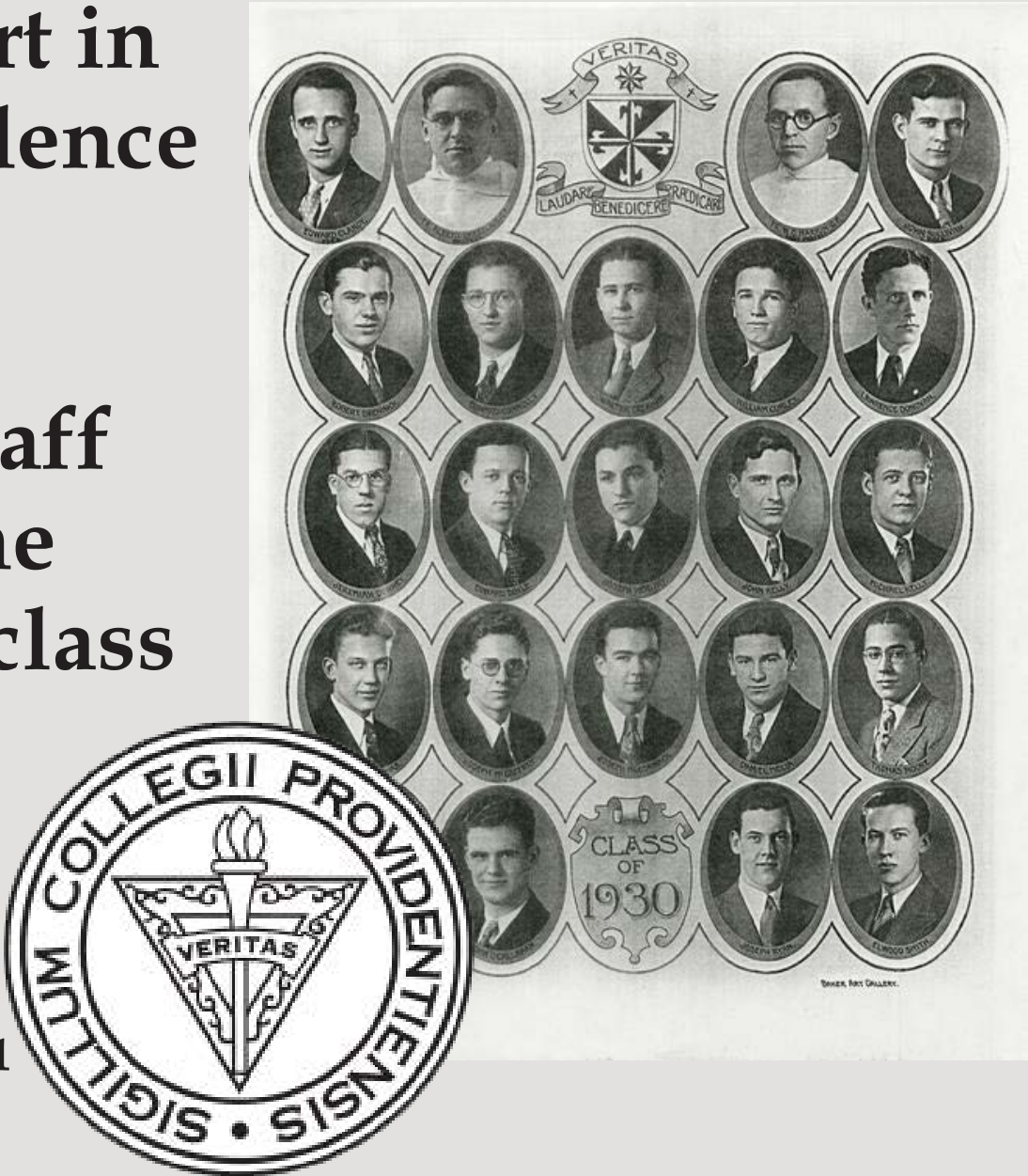
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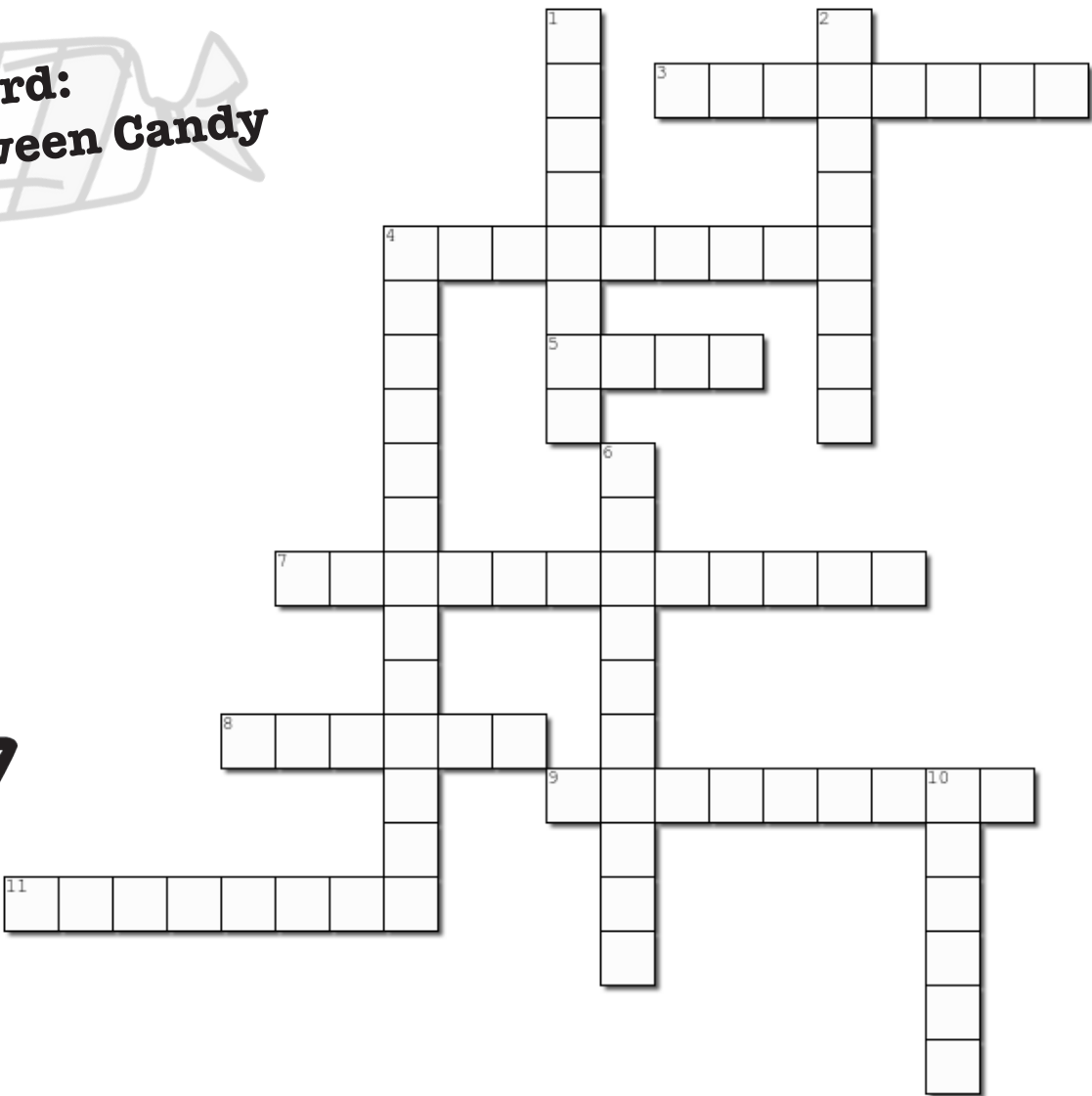


Halloween Puzzles

Crossword:
Favorite Halloween Candy



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PIXABAY



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Across

- 3. this chocolate bar is out of this world
- 4. the pink ones are everyone's favorite
- 5. there's always two sides to every story
- 7. nobody lays a finger on my
- 8. give yourself a break
- 9. don't try putting it in the microwave! they won't pop
- 11. you're not you when you're hungry

Down

- 1. named after a famous baseball player
- 2. taste the rainbow
- 4. first they're sour, then they're sweet
- 6. there's a joke on every wrapper
- 10. can come in peanut butter cups or pieces



Witchy Wordsearch



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- BROOMSTICK
- CACKLE
- CAT
- CAULDRON
- COVEN
- HAT
- POTION
- SPELL
- TOIL
- TROUBLE
- WAND



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CREAZILLA

Ed Corner: Ode to Fall Sports

by Jack Belanger '21
Sports Co-Editor

EDITOR'S CORNER

It is apt to say that sports play a significant role in shaping the culture at Providence College. From the first moment I stepped onto this campus, it was clear how important basketball and hockey are to the PC community. While fall sports do not come close in terms of popularity to winter sports, they nevertheless are an important part of the culture on campus.

For six semesters I have manned the sidelines as a ball boy for all fall athletic teams. I have been up close for countless shootouts at Anderson Stadium. I woke up one early Saturday morning to witness the Friars score eight goals in a field hockey game. I spent Friday evenings in Alumni Hall counting down how many points the volleyball team needed to score to end their match so I could begin my night. What I noticed was where all these sports lacked in flash, they made up for in one unique characteristic: intimacy.

Have you ever noticed how at basketball and hockey games, student sections are packed behind either the basket or goal, away from the benches and an entire half of the court/rink? It would be nice to be close to the action for the whole game. While games at the Dunkin' Donuts Center carry a lot of excitement and energy, there is something special about the games in which you can hear and see the action up close behind the bench.

Fall sports may not be as loud as their winter counterparts, but the sounds you hear are more distinct. During men's soccer games, head coach Craig Stewart's English accent can be heard for the full 90 minutes no matter where you are sitting. There are always a few fans whose chants stand out, whether it be the passionate parents we are all too familiar with or the immature classmates shouting wacky chants.

While the Dunk brings in fans from all around, fall sports are events that specifically bring the campus community together. You always recognize the faces you see at a fall sports game, whether it be fellow students, professors, parents, or even the Dominican friars. The fans are there not because of the prestige of the team competing, but to show authentic support for those they know.

PC's winter sports may show the size of the Friar Family, but the College's fall sports reveal its strength. You do not stay to the end of a volleyball match after the team loses the first two sets or sit through a chilly night because you think your team has a chance to win a national title. You do it because Friars support each other, regardless of the outcome.

A Hockey Life: Cammi Granato *PC Alumna Builds on Family Tradition*

Granato

Continued from front page

Granato's path to Providence College was one she never thought was possible. It all started when another PC graduate caught her eye. Cindy Curley '85 was Granato's very first female role model in hockey. "I knew about her when someone sent me a pamphlet in grade seven. My mom said, 'did you know girls played hockey in college?' In Illinois, we had no idea that women played."

Granato came to PC in 1989 and admitted the first month she was homesick after being so close with her family. Everything changed when she was able to get on the ice and be with her team. "Once hockey started," Granato said, "I realized I had this instant team and the friendships started to form. The memories for me were formed within the day-to-day."

The records show Granato found her home at Schneider Arena. During her time at PC, Granato won Rookie of the Year, ECAC Player of the Year three times, and helped PC win back-to-back conference titles. She still leads the program in points (256), goals (139), and remains second in assists (117). She was inducted into the Providence College Hockey Hall of Fame in 2013. "Those four years were amazing," recalled Granato.

In the 1998 Winter Olympics, there was a women's ice hockey competition for the first time in history. Granato got the opportunity to captain the inaugural USA Women's Hockey Team. The result: a gold medal. It was all surreal for Granato.

"Being able to participate was surreal and being able to compete for a gold medal, who would have thought it was even possible?" Granato sees this as one of her biggest accomplishments. "It doesn't get any better than that," she said.



GRAPHIC CREATED BY CAM SMITH '21

Granato starred at PC (left) before going on to captain the USA Women's Hockey team to their first gold medal (right).

"The pinnacle for me, playing in the Olympics and winning the gold was incredibly memorable. It is something I am very grateful for."

In 2010, Granato was one of first two women to ever be inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame. It was never her goal while playing to get into the Hall. She admits, "I never thought about that, about getting into it. I had never aspired to do it because I didn't know it was possible."

When the opportunity finally arrived, it meant more for her than just being inducted: "I was humbled and honored. I knew it was not just about me, it was about women. I knew there were women before me who deserved it. It was a representation for women, and I see it as a day of recognition of

women. It was special."

Nowadays, Granato is the first female scout in NHL history for the new expansion team, the Kraken. Living in Vancouver, she heard that Seattle was the destination for the new team and immediately thought it would be the perfect fit.

Rob Francis, the general manager for the Kraken, played with Granato's husband, Ray Ferraro, and asked for Granato's number. "He offered me the position and I just thought it was a great fit," she recalled.

After Granato was named one of the Kraken's scouts in 2019, Francis spoke to the media and told them that, "I know she's a female pro scout for us, but her résumé is why she got the job — not because she's female."

Currently, Granato is scouting the professional players in the NHL, specifically in the Pacific Division of the Western Conference. "The position itself was super natural to me," she said. "I love analyzing the game and that has come from being in a family of coaches and brothers who love watching game tape." However, she added that "Sitting up in the press box with ten other guys is not something I am not used to."

Granato is very excited for the opportunity to continue to be involved in the game of hockey. She says for the future, "I definitely want to stay in the game and be at the level I am at. It is really enjoyable being a part of an organization especially like Seattle. The environment is great."

After all, hockey has been a part of Granato's life since day one. "Hockey in general is just a part of me. I do not know life without hockey. It is second nature to me." Granato says she has more goals for the future, ones she wishes to keep to herself, but for now she is happy with the balance between her family at home and with her team in Seattle.

A trailblazer in every sense of the word, one can only wait and see what barrier she will break next.



PHOTO COURTESY OF SEATTLE KRAKEN

Now a scout for the Seattle Kraken, Granato will play a pivotal part in the team's success in their inaugural season.

Playing Through a Pandemic

Leagues Successfully Navigate COVID Crisis

The NBA in Orlando

Back in March, the NBA suspended its season following increasing concerns over the onset of COVID-19, along with the first player to test positive, Utah Jazz center Rudy Gobert. The NBA, more than 75% through their 2019-2020 campaign, needed to then find a way to finish its season properly and safely. They did so by investing millions of dollars into creating a fun and entertaining, and most importantly secure, “bubble” at Walt Disney World in Lake Buena Vista, Florida.

The bubble started with 22 teams, all either within striking distance of a playoff spot or already in one. The format was simple: each team would play eight seeding games in order to officially name those who would move onto the playoffs, which gave the outside teams a chance at the eighth seed. The Phoenix Suns, an afterthought heading into the bubble, went 8-0 in the seeding games as star shooting guard Devin Booker played some of the best basketball of his career. However, they would just barely miss out on the eighth seed to the Portland Trail Blazers. With a squad of Hassan Whiteside, Jusuf Nurkić, C.J. McCollum and, of course, bubble MVP Damian Lillard, the Trail Blazers were able to capture the Western Conference’s eighth seed thanks to a victory over Ja Morant’s Memphis Grizzlies in the play-in game.

The playoffs brought a batch of equally exciting games. Two young, up-and-coming teams in the Denver Nuggets and Utah Jazz went to seven

games in a historic first round series. Denver would defeat the Jazz and move on to face the Los Angeles Clippers, a title contender led by Kawhi Leonard and Paul George. The Nuggets mounted a furious comeback to beat the Clippers in seven games before falling to the Los Angeles Lakers in the NBA Finals. In the East, things unfolded as expected until the Milwaukee Bucks, led by back-to-back MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo, were knocked off by Jimmy Butler and a scrappy Miami Heat team. Butler and the Heat went on to beat the Boston Celtics and advance to the Finals where they would fall to the Lakers.

It always seemed inevitable that the Lakers would win the Finals. Not only were they one of the most talented teams in the world, featuring generational stars such as LeBron James and Anthony Davis, but they also had strong veteran players such as center Dwight Howard and point guard Rajon Rondo. Important to note is that the Lakers were also playing in honor of franchise icon Kobe Bryant, who tragically passed away in a helicopter accident earlier this year.

Indeed, the fact that anyone was crowned a champion at all in this year of turmoil is something that the NBA should be proud of.

-Joseph Quirk '23
Sports Staff



The NHL in Canada

On Sept. 28, the Tampa Bay Lightning shut out the Dallas Stars 2-0, ending a six-game series in an unprecedented yet entertaining Stanley Cup matchup. Tampa Bay’s victory completed a two-month playoff bubble, which began on Aug. 1 and included 24 out of the 31 National Hockey League franchises. The Lightning skipped the qualifying rounds and entered the playoffs as the No. 2 seed in the Eastern Conference. Tampa Bay avenged last year’s shocking defeat against the Columbus Blue Jackets, dominated the Boston Bruins, and then skated past the New York Islanders on the way to their second Stanley Cup Finals appearance in five years.

The Dallas Stars fought relentlessly, especially goaltender Anton Khudobin, but the Tampa Bay offense proved too much of a challenge for the young Dallas defenders. Tampa Bay centerman Brayden Point netted 14 goals and assisted on 19 other goals. However, it was Victor Hedman who took home the hardware awarded to the NHL’s most valuable player during the Stanley Cup Playoffs. Hedman became the first defenseman to win the Conn Smyth trophy since Duncan Keith in 2015. In just 25 games, Hedman recorded 10 goals and 22 points, setting franchise records for both total goals and points by a Tampa Bay defender.

Besides the championship, the most important outcome of the 2020 Stanley Cup Playoffs was the success of the NHL bubble that occurred in two cities. The NHL became the first of the four major

North American sport leagues to complete a postseason in the COVID-19 pandemic. NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman and the two Canadian cities, Toronto, Ontario and Edmonton, Alberta, created an environment that ensured the safety of the players and staff. All personnel involved in daily bubble activity were divided into categories based on their roles and the people to whom they were exposed.

The NHL conducted 33,174 tests with zero positive cases among category one and category two personnel. Players, medical officials, and team and league staff members made up these first two categories. However, there were a few positive tests among category three and four personnel, which included individuals who had little exposure to the players but still participated in the bubble as hotel staff, cooks, and security officers.

The NHL and the NHL Player’s Association implemented Jan. 1, 2021 as the start of the next season. Bettman is optimistic for a “full regular season, and to have fans in the building, but there are a lot of things that have to transpire, many of which if not most of which are beyond our control before we can finalize our plans.” However, if the NHL needs to return to a bubble, Bettman can follow the success of this season to provide fans with entertaining and competitive hockey.

-Ryan Carius '21
Sports Staff



Three Future Friars Taken in NHL Draft

by Thomas Zinzarella '21
Sports Staff

MEN’S ICE HOCKEY

With the Tampa Bay Lightning still celebrating their recent Stanley Cup victory over the Dallas Stars, it is already time to look to the next generation of hockey players. Many potential stars were selected in the 2020 NHL Draft that took place on Oct. 6 and Oct. 7.

Two current Friars and one future Providence College player were selected on day two of the 2020 NHL draft. Brett Berard '24, a native of East Greenwich, RI, was the first Friar off the board. Berard was drafted in the fifth round at the 134th overall position by the New York Rangers. He was ranked 45th by the NHL Central Scouting for North American Skaters going into the 2020 draft.

Prior to coming to Friartown, Berard spent two years playing for the U.S. National Team Development Program (USNTDP). For the U18 team last year, he scored 16 goals and recorded 18 assists while also recording the highest points per game average of any United States Hockey League skater to play in 10-plus games last year (1.38). He played in the exhibition game between the USNTDP and the Friars last year at Schneider Arena. PC won the game 2-1 in overtime.

Berard’s father, David Berard '92, played for the Friars and is currently the head coach at The College of the Holy Cross. The Friars split a home and home series with the Crusaders the last two years. David also spent time behind



Berard (left) and Yoder (center) are expected to skate for the Friars this season while Duran (right) will join them at Schneider Arena after another year in the USHL.

PHOTO COURTESY OF PC ATHLETICS

the Friar bench over a period of three different stints with the program. He was an assistant coach from 1994-1996 before returning from 1998-2011, and then was the director of hockey operations for the 2013-2014 season.

The next Friar selected was Chase Yoder '24, a forward from Fairview, TX. Yoder was selected in the sixth round with the 170th overall pick by the Pittsburgh Penguins. Yoder also hails from the U18 USNTDP along with Berard. He posted 10 goals and 10 assists in the 2019-2020 season. The shifty forward was ranked 92nd on the NHL Central North American Skaters ranking list coming into the draft. He has been compared to former Friar and current Penguins player Brandon Tanev

'16. Yoder may eventually join Tanev in Pittsburgh as the former Friar recently signed a six-year, \$21 million deal.

The final Friar selected was Riley Duran, a future Friar to watch. Duran hails from Woburn, MA and was drafted by his hometown Boston Bruins with the 182nd overall pick in the sixth round. Duran compares his game to that of current Bruins center Charlie Coyle. In 27 games last year, Duran recorded 22 goals and 22 assists for Lawrence Academy in Groton, MA. Duran was ranked 95th on the NHL Central Scouting North American Skater list. He will join Friar head coach Nate Leaman’s squad in 2021 after he spends this upcoming year with the Youngstown Phantoms of the USHL.

Under the tutelage of Nate Leaman,

Friar fans have become accustomed to seeing NHL draft picks fill the line sheet. Since 2011, 28 players have been drafted under Leaman. Just two years ago, the Friars had nine NHL draft picks on their roster, one of the highest tallies in the country. When they made the Frozen Four in 2019, Providence held the most draft picks out of any of the other three teams in Buffalo.

The Friars will look to get back to the Frozen Four this year after their previous season was cut short due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Hockey East is currently working on plans to start the season in late November, so hopefully Friar fans will soon get to catch a glimpse of these new and exciting NHL prospects.

This Week in Friar History

Men’s Soccer:

Oct. 29, 2014 vs. DePaul University, win 2-1

Phil Tower ’15 and Dominik Machado ’18RS each scored as the Friars clinched their ticket to the Big East Tournament with a win over the Blue Demons.

Oct. 26, 2019 vs. Creighton University, win 3-2

Eight minutes into overtime, Paulo Lima ’22 nailed a side volley into the lower left hand corner of the net, sending the Friars home with a victory after a back-and-forth affair.

Women’s Soccer:

Oct. 29, 2017 vs. DePaul University, tie 1-1

Deadlocked at 1-1 through regulation play, the Friars knocked off the Blue Demons by going four for four on penalty kicks. The win sent them to the Big East Semifinals.

Field Hockey:

Oct. 28, 2016 at Old Dominion University, win 1-0

Mary O’Reilly ’20 scored her first career goal at the right time. An overtime deflection off a penalty corner put the Friars through to the Big East Tournament.

Oct. 27, 2019 vs. Rider University, win 1-0

The Friars captured their 12th win of the season and emerged victorious on Senior Day thanks to an O’Reilly goal early in the first quarter.

Cross Country:

Nov. 2, 2013 at Big East Championships, Women 1st, Men 2nd

The women’s team dominated the meet, as they had four of the top seven finishers including Emily Sisson’s ’14 first place finish. Over on the men’s side, Brian Doyle ’15 placed third to pace the men’s team to a strong second-place finish.

Volleyball:

Nov. 3, 2017 vs. DePaul University, win 3-0

Addison Root ’20 led the Friars with 12 kills to go along with freshman McKenzie Lydon’s 18 digs as PC routed the Blue Demons in three sets.



The Life and Times of John Thompson

by **Leo Hainline ’22**
Sports Staff

MEN’S BASKETBALL

Legendary coach and former Friar John Thompson ’64 passed away in late August at the age of 78, leaving behind an unparalleled legacy.

Thompson was a pioneer in the game of basketball. He was the first African American to lead his team to an NCAA Tournament Championship, which he did in 1984 with Georgetown University. During his time coaching the Hoyas, Thompson completely altered the college basketball landscape. He helped the Big East become the most renowned basketball conference in the country. His passing is felt not just by Providence College and Georgetown University, but by the entire college basketball world. The passion Thompson brought in both helping his team succeed on the court and in helping his players succeed off the court is one of the greatest examples of embodying the Friar Family mantra.

Thompson grew up in Washington, D.C., where he was a standout basketball player for Archbishop Carroll High School. He would lead the team to three consecutive city championships. During his college career, Thompson was a star for the Friars, scoring 1,520 points and grabbing 1,061 rebounds in his four years. The big man led PC to the National Invitational Tournament title in 1963, and, as a senior, he was a First-Team All-American. He also helped bring the program to its first ever NCAA Tournament appearance. Thompson was drafted by the Boston Celtics, allowing him to play alongside the legendary Bill Russell. He won two NBA titles in his two-year NBA career.

Following his playing career, Thompson returned to D.C. to become the head coach of the men’s basketball team and a guidance counselor at St. Anthony’s High School. Georgetown noticed his local success and hired Thompson as their head coach in 1972. He inherited a team that went 3-23 before his arrival. In just a few short years, he would drastically improve the program, making the Hoyas regulars in the NCAA Tournament.

Thompson changed the culture at Georgetown, as he built the program around relentless defending. He made sure his players gave it their all—both on the court and in the classroom. Thompson once famously said, “I don’t coach their team. They play on my team.” This philosophy turned Georgetown into one of the most dominant programs in the country.

Georgetown reached new heights in the early ’80s when Thompson was able to land the most sought-after recruit in the sport, Patrick Ewing. With the 7-footer protecting the paint, the Hoyas became a perennial powerhouse while elevating the standing of the Big East. In Ewing’s first year as a Hoya, the program fell just short of winning the NCAA title. They lost by one point to a Michael Jordan-led University of North Carolina team in what many consider to be an all-time classic.

Two years later, Georgetown was crowned the NCAA champion after defeating the University of

Houston in the finals. After the game, when asked about being the first Black coach to win the NCAA title, Thompson responded, “I’m not interested in being the first or only Black doing anything because it implies that in 1984, a Black man finally became intelligent enough to win the NCAA title, and that’s a very misleading thing.” Thompson believed that any Black person could have achieved what he did if they were just given the chance. He also asserted that the most important part of Georgetown’s win was bringing a championship to the Mid-Atlantic region, which had not had a team win the NCAA Tournament in 30 years.

Under Thompson, Georgetown became known as one of the most aggressive, physical, and toughest teams in the country. They took pressure defense to a whole new level and set the tone for the rest of the Big East, which soon became known as the most physical conference in college basketball. Some loved them, some hated them, but Thompson’s team was unquestionably built differently than any other team in college hoops. They were everyone’s rival: everyone wanted to beat Georgetown.

Thompson was at the head of a trend that saw Big East coaches become not just coaches, but also important figures in popular culture. Thompson was passionate and vocal while coaching, and standing at 6 feet 10 inches, his presence was always felt, regardless of whether spectators were in the arena or watching the game at home. He was one of the original, great coaches of the conference, along with the likes of Jim Boeheim at Syracuse University, Rollie Massimino at Villanova University, Lou Carnesecca at St. John’s University, and P.J. Carlesimo at Seton Hall University. These men all set the precedent of the Big East having some of the country’s best coaches and the most captivating personalities.

Each coach had his own distinct flair and style. Thompson was especially known for defending his players when they needed him. In an 1983 incident, Thompson removed his players from the court during a game against Villanova until racist banners targeting Patrick Ewing were taken down. Thompson also limited player interviews to protect them from the media, which often skewed stories or sometimes portrayed the almost all-Black Georgetown roster in an unfavorable light.

Along with his success on the court, Thompson’s care for his players and those around him off the court was also unique. He understood that life was about more than winning basketball games. He treated the people around him with kindness and respect. Indeed, John Thompson’s Georgetown teams transformed college basketball. His program boosted the reputation of the Big East, which had the effect of turning college basketball into must-see TV for average Americans in a way that it never was before.

Not everyone can replicate Thompson’s coaching brilliance on the sidelines, but everyone can look to him to see how we can make a positive impact on other people’s lives. The world truly lost one of the all-time greats with his passing.

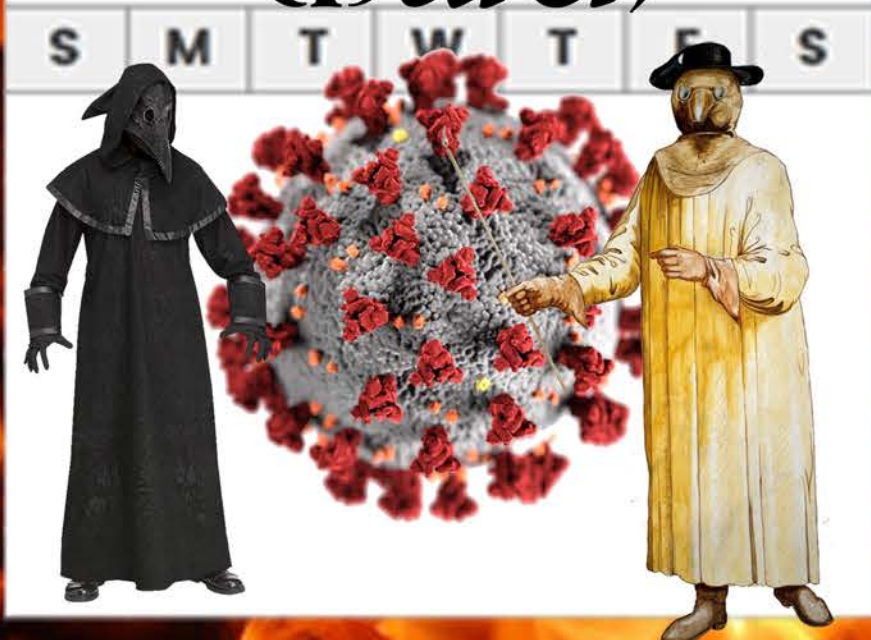


PHOTO COURTESY OF HEINZ KLUETMEIER/SPORTS ILLUSTRATED

Thompson, one of the greatest coaches in college basketball history, spent 27 years with the Hoyas. He won 596 games and appeared in 20 national tournaments.

Portfolio HALLOWEEN

March



April



July



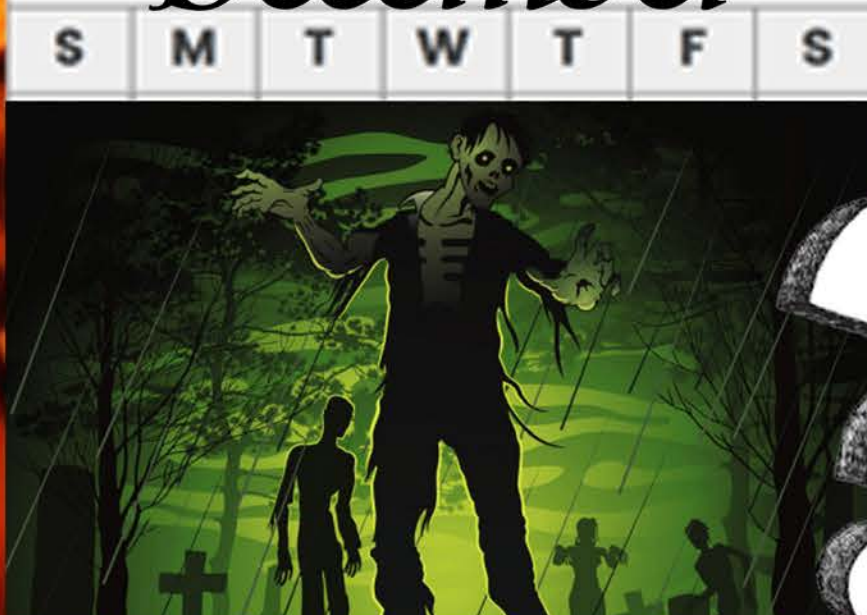
August



November



December





Mud Pact

by Sarah McLaughlin '23
Portfolio Editor

FICTION

We could usually all fit underneath the slide.

It was stuffy and we were squished against each other like sardines, but we had enough room to do what we had to do. There were only five of us, after all. Only five of us were brave enough. We called the rest of the kids names since they didn't want to join us. The ones who told on us to the teacher were the worst, but Miss Sparks never stopped us because she didn't believe them. I think some of the other kids didn't believe us either.

Tommy was the one who got the frogs. I don't know where he found them. He always said he had a lake in his backyard and he'd swim to the bottom, but I never believed him. I think he caught them on the side of the road, because I've seen them flattened and dried up in the sun in the school parking lot.

A lot of kids called us weird, but Tommy was the weirdest of us all. Every day, he came to school with a Tupperware container with a red lid. I always wondered if he stole it from his parents, and if they ever found out what he was doing. Mine never did. Leo stopped doing it with us because he said his mom got mad when he threw up and had to get picked up from school early. I heard he had to go to the hospital and get a needle stuck in his arm.

I'd never had a needle stuck in my arm, and I had done it twice now. Some kids' names had been picked more often—Sally had done it four times. Tommy had done it three, but I think sometimes he secretly wrote his name down twice. I'd seen him put two pieces of paper into my baseball cap as I held it out in the middle of our circle.

As soon as the bell rang for recess, we headed for the playground. We used the slide in the back, because it was dark and damp and Sally said that's what the frogs like. I thought she was

right, because Miss Sparks taught us about frogs in science class. We didn't pay much attention that day since we were all giggling at each other, but I remembered her talking about their life cycle—how they start off in the pond as tadpoles and then grow legs. I wondered if that's how I grew legs, too, and I just didn't remember it.

That day, it was raining. We all squished ourselves a little closer together than usual since we wanted to stay dry. It pelted the tin slide above us and sounded like a bin of LEGOs falling on somebody's head. Our light blue uniform shirts were so damp already that they looked more like navy.

My hat was wet, and so was the paper. Harry was supposed to bring his pencil, but he forgot, so after I tore the paper into five wet pieces we dipped the tips of our fingers in the mud and used it to write our initials. My "N" looked more like an "H." I decided I wasn't going to say anything if it got picked and they thought it wasn't mine. I had eaten a bologna sandwich for lunch and was feeling a little queasy.

Once the papers were in the hat, I took it back and shook it around. Some of the mud had dried a little and fell off, but I figured it was okay. Louis was the one who drew the name. He picked out the paper, opened it, and said it was Harry. I held my breath. Harry nodded, water dripping from his hair and running down his face. His skin looked white.

Then it was time for Tommy to take it out. He unzipped his Spiderman backpack and took out the container. Before he opened it, I could only see a black shadow of it pressed up against the side. It looked like a big one.

When he took off the lid, it jumped. It landed in my hat, thankfully, so I grabbed it with my other hand and squeezed it tight so it wouldn't escape. We all

laughed, except Harry.

It was starting to squirm in my hand, so I held it out to Harry. He put his hands out like how Miss Sparks told us to hold them for Communion in church. I told him he needed to hold on tight or it was going to hop away. He nodded really fast.

I placed it into his hand, still holding on for a second, and then let go. He put his other hand on top to squish it like a sandwich. I wondered, if you put bread around it, if it would taste anything like bologna.

"Count of three," Tommy said. He was always the one who said it.

"Wait," Harry said. "I've never done it before. Does it taste really bad?"

"Yeah," Sally said, while Louis said, "No."

"Just do it," I said. I didn't want them to discover that it was maybe supposed to be my turn. While they were watching Harry, I grabbed the rest of the paper scraps from the hat and crushed them in my fist.

"Okay," Harry said. "Okay. Okay." He said "okay" a few more times.

"Do it," Tommy said. "If you start crying, we're gonna get caught."

I think it was that idea that finally spurred him on. He opened his mouth wide, tipped his head back, and held his hands up above it. One of the webbed feet was dangling down, already on its way to his throat. Then he opened his hand, and it made a plop

sound.

As soon as he swallowed—I saw the bulge in his throat—he screamed. Tommy reached over and clamped his hand over his mouth, and he didn't stop. I thought Miss Sparks was going to hear him. But then he stopped, and when Tommy pulled his hands away, his lips were blue.

"I think I'm gonna throw up," he said. He was really quiet. "I need to call my mom."

"No, you don't," Tommy said. "If you throw up, just do it right here. You're gonna get us in trouble."

"I'm gonna throw up," Harry said again. "I'm gonna throw up."

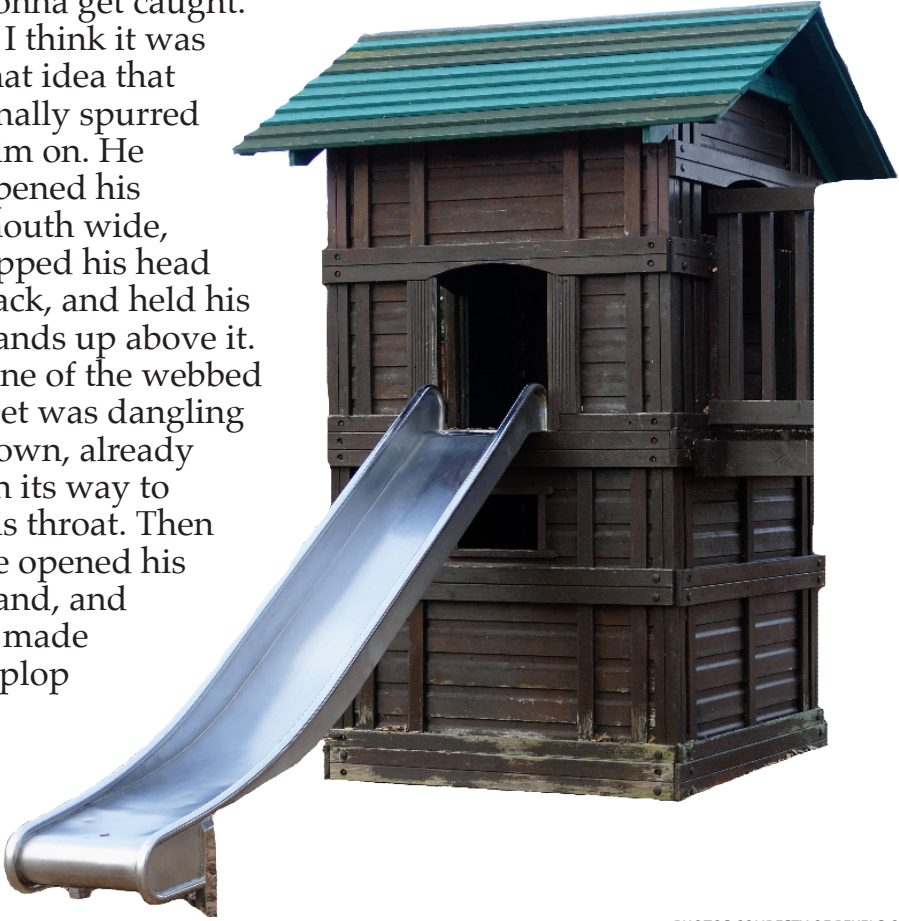
"Ew," Sally said. "If he throws up, I'm gonna throw up, too."

"Shut up," Louis said. "Everybody shut up. Miss Sparks is gonna hear us."

I didn't think anyone would hear us talking, because the rain kept pounding on the slide. But if someone threw up, somebody else would definitely see us.

"I hope I get picked next week," Tommy said. "I'll show you guys how it's done. You're all scaredy-cats."

"Here," I said to Harry. I passed him my hat.



MONSTER HAIKUS

Churning, black whirlpool
Or six-headed snapping jaws—
The hero must choose.

by Sarah McLaughlin '23
Portfolio Editor

I crawl black of night
I howl the full of the moon
I am one of you.

by Marelle Hipolito '22
Portfolio Staff

Now I lay me down,
I wish he would let me sleep.
Demon of my life.

by Sam Ward '21
Portfolio Staff

Sat under the bridge
Awaiting their next victim.
Snarl. The trolls gather.

by Sarah Kirchner '21
Portfolio Editor

My color scares you.
You think I am a monster.
Yet, you scare me more.

by Mariela Flores '23
Portfolio Staff

Lurking in the loch
vestige of another time
the last of her kind.

by Elizabeth McGinn '21
Portfolio Editor

Dark shadows flash around.
Weaving in and out of trees—
Footprints left behind.

by Anna Pomeroy '23
Portfolio Staff

Without any light
Darkness lurks like a monster
Preying on my fears.

by Sarah Heaven '21
Portfolio Staff

Dancing and taunting
His father trained him too well
The Boogeyman's son.

by Ellie Forster '24
Portfolio Staff

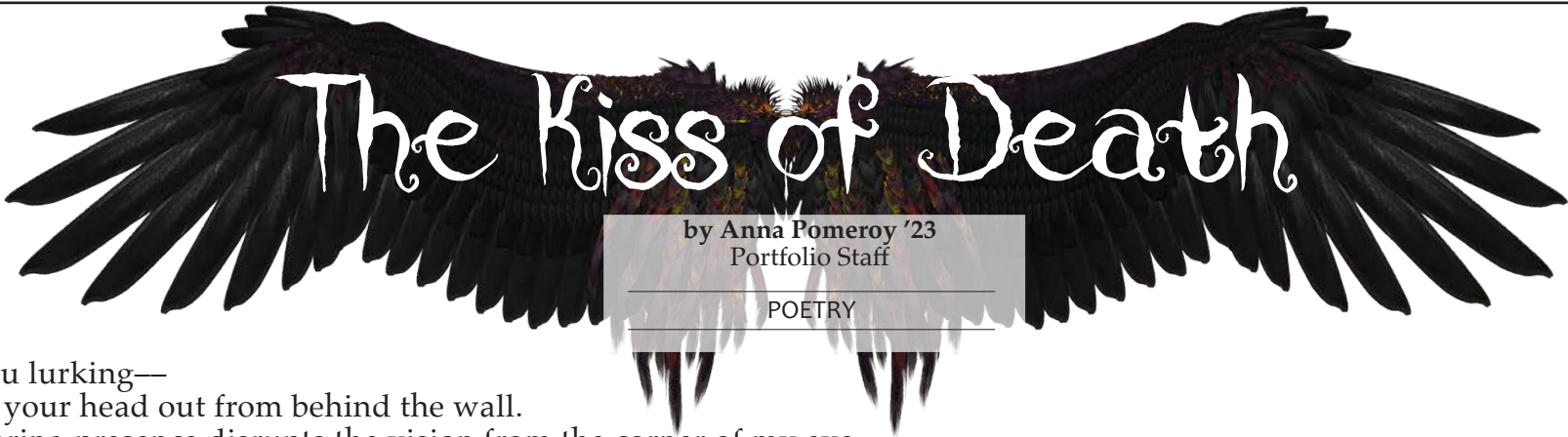
The vampires all fly,
Eagerly searching for meals.
Where will they hunt next?

by Taylor Rogers '24
Portfolio Staff

He wonders, "why me?"
Eyes on the moon, desolate
Soon, screams turn to howls.

by Kate Ward '23
Portfolio Staff





I feel you lurking—
Peering your head out from behind the wall.
Your glaring presence disrupts the vision from the corner of my eye.
I quickly turn my cheek, hoping to catch a glimpse—
Reassurance that maybe I am just crazy, or perhaps I am dying.

Sweat beads begin to trace down my hairline, caressing my cheek.
Is it really today?
Am I going to die?

I mean, technically I am.
Every day, every minute, every second,
Is one closer to death.

Your existence is wanted, yet many times necessary.
And while you strip away innocent souls,
You are a bandaid to an infinitely bleeding wound.

You stand awkwardly in the corner of the hospital room.
Like a middle school boy nervously waiting under the flashing disco light—
Not sure when to make the final move,
When to lean over the person with your wings spread and give them the kiss.
The kiss— so gentle, yet so deceiving.
It’s as if you can see the thick fog of the soul being vacuumed up.

We are all dying, you just seem to choose when—
When to stitch up a wound that will only create an even wider one in someone else.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PIXABAY.COM



Victoria

by Kate Ward '23
Portfolio Staff

FICTION



Like every other house on the street, their house was modern: a sleek black exterior with a white interior and a veiny granite counter. The house was sparsely decorated and resembled an emergency room in its cleanliness. It seemed to have a permanent draft as the tan curtains always fluttered as if a pixie was shaking them. However, for the newlywed couple, this house was home, despite all of its shadowy corners and harsh lines. Saoirse and her husband Dominic married shortly after graduating college and didn’t hesitate to have children. The pair was blessed with one child, a baby girl named Ada. As Ada grew, she developed a wild imagination and didn’t hesitate to create elaborate games with her father, which involved running around the house draped in blankets, shouting made-up spells. Saoirse was a worried mother and always fretted to her husband, cautioning them to be more careful and not to trip over the blankets.

Due to Ada’s imagination, it came as no shock that as she entered elementary school, she would come home bursting with vibrant stories of a girl

named Victoria who helped her through science and math. However, after consulting the teacher, the parents found out there was no girl in Ada’s grade named Victoria. In fact, there was no one in the school with the name. Saoirse began to worry, fretting to her husband each evening about their little Ada. As a precaution, the pair had Ada evaluated. The doctor assured them that Victoria was a figment of Ada’s imagination and that it was a very common occurrence in small children, especially children with no siblings. The parents were able to breathe a sigh of relief as they finally got to the root of Victoria, but the buck didn’t stop there. As Ada grew, the stories grew as well, both in detail and in sinister nature. Victoria had begun to appear in Ada’s room, however, when



Dominic went to check, no one was there. Yet, Ada insisted that Victoria was there, insisted that they were just talking. Finally, after nine years of stories, Ada stopped seeing the girl.

The day Ada turned twelve, she told her mother that after three years of not seeing Victoria, she saw Victoria in her bedroom last night. And thus, the stories began again. Ada progressed in school and was acing her classes through middle and high school, excelling particularly in science and math. She began college and, like every other pair of parents, Saoirse and Dominic were proud and mostly relieved to finally be rid of the tales of Victoria.

Things were calm while Ada was away, but then they slowly began to spiral out of control. Dominic flicked through the news each morning, paying close attention to the crime reports and how murder rates had begun to climb. He and Saoirse invested in new locks

on the doors and cameras, both indoors and outdoors, but it did little to ease their minds. One evening while Saoirse blew her hair dry, the bathroom door eased open.

“Dominic, what do you need, love?” she asked, shaking the blow dryer back and forth over her hair.

“Oh, nothing,” said a female voice. “Hello, Saoirse.”

Saoirse jumped out of her skin, the dryer clattering to the granite counter. She looked at the woman and asked, “I’m sorry, who are you?”

“You know exactly who I am,” she said, lifting a bloodied knife to her lips, sucking the arterial blood from it.

Cold sweat slithered down Saoirse’s spine, tears bubbling over her lash line, “Where’s Dominic?”

“You know.” She smiled and lowered the knife. “Turns out I was real all along, hm?”

“Victoria,” Saoirse whispered. A terrible squelching noise came from her stomach as the knife was rammed into it.

WHO IS FOLLOWING ME?

by Mariela Flores '23
Portfolio Staff

PROSE POETRY

There is someone following me.
I can hear their footsteps and the way that they mimic my own. Their smell is familiar and strong, and it makes me sick to my stomach. They follow me as I go left and right, they follow me as I step onto the bus and step off, and they follow me as I sit down.
I can hear my heartbeat and how it threatens to leap out of my chest. I stare at my nails, chipping away the polish. I want to look distracted and unaware that there is someone following me.

I step off the bus and I can feel them smiling. Their presence envelops me, and my palms begin to sweat. I want to turn around, I want to scream and shout, but my words get stuck in the promise of asking for help.
My feet begin to tire as I walk as fast as I can; I want to run and move away, find somewhere safe to stay, but they will not leave me, no, they will not leave me.

Someone is following me as I enter my home.
They try so hard not to make it known, but my tears are welling up in my eyes and I begin to shake. As I walk into the bathroom, I fear I made a mistake.

Someone is following me as I step into the shower and I can hear them just beyond the curtain. They begin to laugh, and I begin to cry. There is nothing left to do but to face them and look them in the eyes.

I step out now, afraid of what I'll see.

But I look into the mirror, and all I see is me.



PHOTO COURESTY OF UNSPLASH.COM AND GRAPHIC DESIGN BY SARAH MCLAUGHLIN

AMONG US

by Sam Ward '21
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

What made you, killer?
Like some deranged son of Cain,
Primordial vision on predatory
Impulses pulled from your
Triune brain off kilter,
Are you reptilian or a person?

Who awoke you, monster?
Your limbic still intact
Except for the pleasure
Derived from bloodlust and
Philic for dormant urges,
That should remain latent.

Why are you, devil?
Kill the innocent but they are no
sacrificial lamb, just new followers
For your Church of Shadows,
Every body a trophy,
Everybody a victim.

What now, demon?
Made or unmade, just disappearing
Differences, scolding hot inside
The icy channels of our minds.

We all have monsters,
Under our beds and inside our hearts.
We have a lot to reckon with.
There is a killer in all of us.



URBAN LEGENDS

The Black Angel

by Sarah Kirchner '21
Portfolio Editor

FICTION

“Are we really going in?” Claire squeaked. The three of us stared at the cemetery entrance.

“It’s Halloween! We have to!” Ryan declared. Before any of us could object, he walked through the gate. I grabbed Claire’s hand and took a deep breath. There was no turning back.

As we stepped over the threshold, chills ran down my spine. Ryan wandered ahead while Claire and I lingered at the front. Up ahead, the Black Angel loomed. The wings stretched out, threatening to consume us. Had something moved in its shadow? No. It had to be Ryan.

“Stop messing around, Ryan. You’re going to accidentally hit the angel, and it’s almost midnight.”

“You actually believe those rumors?”

Claire and I exchanged a look. Of course we did.

“You also believe that if I kiss her, I’ll die instantly?” I chewed on my lip. I didn’t know what to believe, but I wasn’t going to test my luck. We all knew the stories. Ryan laughed and jumped onto the base of the statue. Claire and I screamed in unison. Ryan continued to laugh and grabbed onto the angel’s waist. Before Claire and I could interject, he pressed his lips to hers. A blood-curdling scream sounded, seemingly from nowhere and everywhere at once. Ryan jumped at the cry. His balance faltered and before I could reach out, he hit the ground with a loud thump. Above him, the Black Angel darkened. There was no question what had just happened. The Black Angel had claimed another victim.

Small and Simple

by Marelle Hipolito '22
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

A boy, a small, simple province boy, sold bread for his family. Up and down the highway traffic, the small, simple province boy tapped on car windows and sold bread for his family. Most times the boy received coins in exchange, other times he received remarks of dismissal. One time this boy, the small and simple province boy, received a horse. A small, simple wooden horse, stuck in gallop, bought with old bread. The boy, small and simple, hid the simple horse in his small pocket and galloped from the highway to home. In his excitement, the boy did not see the large and complex car, flying towards him, making the small and simple boy weak and weary. In his last breaths, the boy gripped the horse, wishing that he had a chance to not be so small and simple. There was a whinny and a whine. At this time, people talk about the big and polished wooden boy, who galloped out of the small and simple province.

A Real Deal

by Ellie Forster '24
Portfolio Staff

FICTION

“It’ll save you a fortune,” the man with different colored eyes said as he snapped his gum. She looked skeptically at the small green capsule in her palm.

“Why haven’t I heard of it before?” she asked.

“I’m glad you asked darlin’! The big oil companies don’t want you to know about these bad boys on account of how they’re gonna steal all of their business. Who would wanna pay for gas when this little pill’ll make it with nothin’ but water?”

She gave a forced smile, handed him the fifty cents, pocketed the pill, and left quickly.

When she ate dinner with her husband that night she told him about the man and his magic pill. Her husband was enthused.

“We gotta try it! You shoulda found out if we coulda invested.”

“I dunno,” she said pushing her food around her plate. “I just wanted to shut him up, it’s definitely a scam.”

“Well, let’s find out,” he said, holding out his palm.

She placed the little thing reluctantly in his hand and he dropped it in his glass. The pill fizzled and the water turned green. A sort of vapor started to come off of it and the pair slumped forward into their potatoes and chicken.

Their house was robbed that night. Every room stripped bare, their cold bodies on the floor of the dining room. Nothing concrete was caught on the cameras, just a pair of mismatched eyes under a ski-mask, winking before the footage cut out.

The Voice of the Eaton Street Bike Lane from The Great Beyond

by Sarah Heavren '21
Portfolio Staff

POETRY

Traces remain
Of my short life.
Streaks of yellow
To the right.

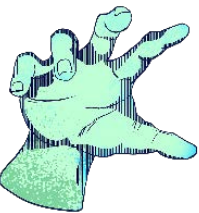
Few remember
And fewer care
About the bike lane
No longer there.

Like a sad ghost
I haunt the street
Of things gone by
Not to repeat.



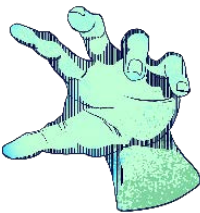


Zombie Cases Rise Days After Darty



by Tom Brainy '21
Portfolio Staff

SATIRE



As the zombie plague spreads across the eastern United States, Providence College has been largely unaffected. The walls built in the beginning of the semester to separate the campus from surrounding neighborhoods appear to have succeeded in their purpose of protecting students from the disease—until now, that is.

Last Saturday, some students held a day party, otherwise known as a “darty,” in off-campus housing. Despite PC administration’s warnings to remain socially distant and to not interact with people outside of your pod, this darty appeared to violate those rules. Only a few days later, we have already started to see a spike in zombie infections among off-campus students.

“My roommate started to look a little sick a few days ago,” said John McWhite

’21. “I thought he was just hungover, until he tried to take a bite out of my arm!”

The zombie plague is known to mostly affect the elderly and at-risk populations. In severe instances, those infected attempt to eat the brains of non-infected people. In mild cases, symptoms may include an appetite for a carnivore diet and attempted cannibalism. While younger and healthier people tend to have more mild infections, they are still contagious if they bite non-infected people.

According to the Providence College Zombie Plague Protocol Team, around 100 students have reported being bitten or are suspected of being bitten, the vast majority of which attended last Saturday’s darty. Although those infected lived outside the protective wall, as students they were permitted to enter.

As a result, cases spread inside the campus as well.

Fr. Ricard released a statement earlier today, stating, “I send everyone thoughts and prayers in this trying time. Even if you are at risk for having your brain eaten, you should still be hard at work studying for those midterms.” He did not respond to questions about the outbreak’s effect on the innocent residential population around the College.



GRAPHIC DESIGN BY SARAH KIRCHNER '21
PHOTOS COURTESY OF PIXABAY.COM



Listomania*



2020 HALLOWEEN COSTUMES:

- Carole Baskin
- Guillotine-decapitated Marie Antoinette
- The fly on Mike Pence’s head
- The Flame
- Among Us characters
- My midterm grades
- Sexy postal worker (#buysomestamps)
- Ruth Bader Ginsburg
- COVID-19 vaccine
- Murder hornet
- Whipped coffee
- Sourdough bread
- A ballot
- Andrew Cuomo
- Fran and Dot
- Anything respectful of other cultures



PHOTOS COURTESY OF PIXABAY.COM

Tiffany & Earl

*Making PC an emotionally stable
place one letter at a time*

Dear Tiff & Earl,

My neighbors across the hall are violating their pod by summoning spirits. The demons aren’t social distancing or wearing masks. How do I report them?

Sincerely,

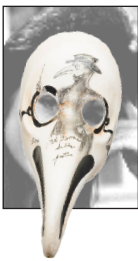
In Need of an Exorcist and a Vaccine

Dear Vac-orcist,

While interacting with people outside of your pod is not the best idea and masks should be worn at all times, I think your main concern should be that there are DEMONS from the GREAT BEYOND in your DORM! Unless you’re living in the tunnels, that is highly concerning and rather uncomfy. Emailing FixIt will not help you in this case. I think you need to take some more drastic measures. Perhaps enlisting the Ghostbusters might be in your best interest.

Bewarefully,

Tiff



Dear Reader,

Luckily, as everyone knows, demons cannot contract COVID-19. I would, however, be more concerned with them stealing your soul. A quick email to your neighbors explaining your concerns should suffice. You perhaps could suggest other, more safe activities to them, such as hunting Sasquatch or communicating with Satan.

Dreadfully,

Earl



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*Listomania, Friartire, and Tiffany & Earl are all satirical pieces that do not reflect the views of Providence College or The Cowl.



January



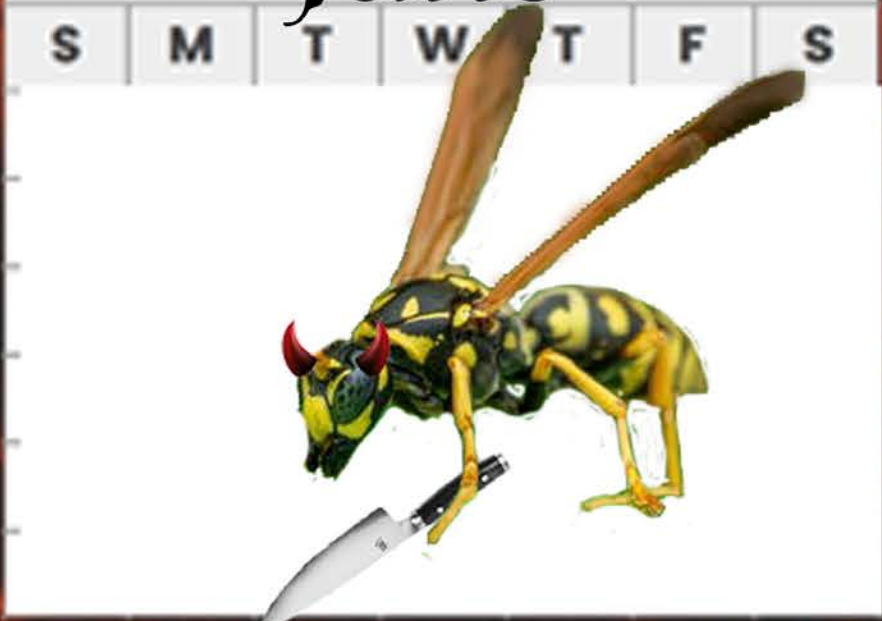
February



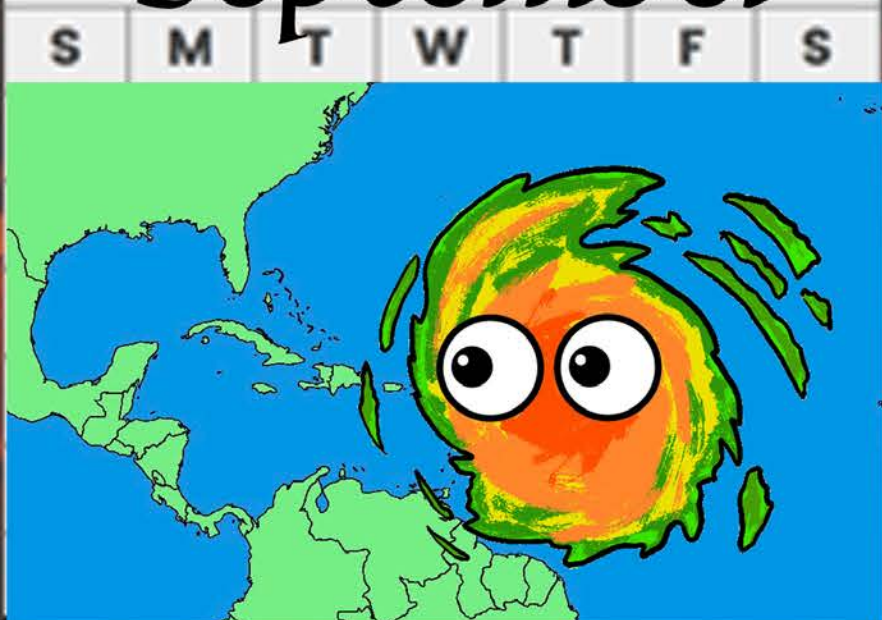
May



June



September



October

